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Animals join cast for
Pets Corner nativity



HUNDREDS of people flock to Pets Corner in Harlow Town Park on Saturday for the annual nativity play.

The story of Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus was acted out by children from the Phoenix Theatre School, performing alongside animals from the children's zoo.

The event was sponsored by the Tony Morris Foundation, Pearson Education and the Great Pardon Community Association.

A Harlow Council spokesman said: "It was another huge success. A big thank-you goes to all the children who, despite the bad weather, wanted to continue with the performances."

Pictured, above, are Eddie Holgarth and Jake Poolman as Mary and Joseph (photo: C2CSJ0CH/01) and, top, Emily Oliver with Santa and Belle the reindeer (photo: C2CSJ0CH/03).

SPOILSPORTS

Councillors press ahead with plans to restrict ball games and skateboarding

By LOUISE SASSOON

News Editor

sassoon@hertsessexnews.co.uk

BALL games and skateboarding are set to be banned at more than 100 locations across Harlow in a move which is being branded as ridiculous.

Councillors have given the go-ahead for byelaws to be introduced at a number of shopping areas, hatches and garage areas to reduce nuisance and prevent danger to the public.

The move was pushed through by members of the council's environment and community committee last month and ratified by the full council on Thursday.

The lengthy list of designated locations will now go to the Secretary of State for provisional

approval before it is the subject of a month-long public consultation exercise.

But Steve Hemming, owner of Motel 6 Skate Shop in Wych Elm and one of the prime movers in the campaign to get the new skate park built off First Avenue, criticised the move.

"It seems ridiculous with all the publicity regarding child obesity that Harlow Council stops people from doing physical activity on their doorstep," he said. "What will they stop next... running?"

Environment and community committee chairman Eddie Johnson said the council did not want to stop children playing but rather to encourage them to do so in the correct areas.

He said police had been called on numerous occasions over the years because of problems with youths playing ball games and skateboarding.

"We thought it was necessary because it was getting to the stage where it was becoming a health and safety issue and dangerous for residents," he said.

"Consultation has already taken place

with the community and young people. The thing to remember is that we don't want to stop children playing, we just want them to play in the right areas."

He said there are plenty of accessible play areas for youngsters to go to and said the new skate park is big enough to accommodate the town's skating youngsters.

"They will be safer and they will not be at risk of knocking down an elderly person or having near misses," he said.

Providing there are no objections to the byelaws, the list will go back to the Secretary of State for ratification leaving police and authorised council officers to enforce the rules.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Is Harlow Council right to ban ball games and skateboarding at locations throughout the town? Write to the Star at 6 West Gate, Harlow, Essex CM20 1JW or email star@hertsessexnews.co.uk



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Time for reflection at tree lights ceremony

SCORES of people came together at Hastingwood's St Clare Hospice to remember family and friends in a special Light Up A Life ceremony on Sunday.

The annual event saw tea lights lit and placed on a Christmas tree in memory of lost loved ones during the touching service.

Giles Wright, head of communications for the

hospice, said: "We were joined by around 150 people from the local area to remember loved ones as we lit up dedicated Christmas tree lights.

"It was a special time with songs, readings and a time to reflect on our memories."

Pictured during the service is Gareth Beresford-Jones, head of bereavement support.



photo: XQ7TBR4S/08

Shop manager fights back to thwart robber

By CHRIS JEFFERIES
star@hertsessexnews.co.uk

A DEFIANT shopkeeper has spoken of the moment he punched a robber who had sprayed him in the face with the contents of an aerosol can.

Sunil Raja was attacked by the thief who then grabbed armfuls of cigarettes and alcohol from his store in Elm Hatch, Harlow.

But instead of letting the robber escape unchallenged, the 48-year-old ran out of his shop and punched the man to the ground, causing him to drop most of his haul.

The man then ran off in the direction of Moor Tower, a high-rise apartment block.

Mr Raja, who has been manager of Ama Mini-Market for 20 years, told the **Star**: "It was just an instinctive reaction, I didn't think twice.

"If it happened again I would have done the same thing because he made away with much less than he would if I hadn't confronted him."



After the robbery took place at 8.30pm on Saturday Mr Raja returned to the store and pressed the panic button, alerting police who were on the scene in less than five minutes.

His injuries were later treated by paramedics who administered an eye-wash.

Mr Raja returned to work on Monday. "I feel angry, who wouldn't?" he said. "I have had a crime committed against me.

"We have CCTV footage of everything that happened. I don't want him to get away with it.

"I have been here for 20 years and this is the first time that anything like this has happened to me. This is a one-off and we're not going to let it affect business."

Police this week issued an appeal for help tracing the robber who is described as black, of chubby build and about 1.83m (6ft) tall. He was wearing a dark-green hooded water-proof anorak.

Anyone with information should contact police on 0300 3334444.

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Rebecca's design is a favourite with MP

A DESIGN by Harlow schoolgirl Rebecca Shaw is gracing the front of this year's Christmas card sent out by town MP Bill Rammell.

Holy Cross School pupil Rebecca beat 250 entrants to win Mr Rammell's annual card competition with her picture of a Christmas tree.

"Choosing a winner is always difficult but I was impressed with the colours and the design of Rebecca's entry this year," he said. "It makes a really lovely Christmas card."

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Councillor remanded on sex abuse charges

A FORMER Conservative councillor charged with sexually abusing a 13-year-old girl has been remanded in custody for a further five weeks.

David Kirton (56), of Longbanks, Harlow, appeared for a plea and case management hearing at Chelmsford Crown Court on Monday but his legal representative successfully applied to adjourn the case until a later date.

Martyn Levett request-

ed an adjournment for further information to be obtained.

Judge Christopher Ball granted the application and ordered Kirton to remain in custody until January 19.

Mr Kirton, who is now sitting as an independent as a result of the allegations, is accused of committing three sexual offences against the teenager since February 1 this year.

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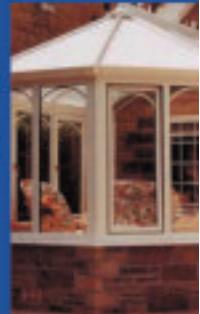
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Susan's search for old school photos

CORRESPONDENCE arrives from Susan Stephenson who is seeking information about Kingsmoor Junior School which she used to attend.

"I used to live in Brockles Mead and moved out to the north east of England when I was 12 years old," she writes. "I was looking to catch up and show my son some of the places I used to go to when I was younger."

"I have found it difficult to find out any information on the school I used to attend, Kingsmoor Junior School. Mr Collins was the headmaster when I left back in about 1978/79 and I was looking for photographs or anything that I can show my son from around this time."

If anybody can help Susan then contact her by emailing her at susan.stephenson@iris.co.uk.

Games for a laugh

MANY of you will have fond memories of the madcap television game show *It's A Knockout* but who remembers when it came to Harlow?

That's the question posed by correspondent Frank O'Hara, who wrote to *Nostalgia* with his own memories of the event.

"I remember it was a summer's day and packed. It was held at the Sportacentre and football stadium while the Town Park was a festival for popular chart bands Mud, Hawkwind, Heatwave, Darts and The Rubettes. The Rubettes actually featured a black and white photo of the concert on the back of one of their album covers."

Frank adds: "Does anybody remember are indeed have photos or a video clip of *It's A Knockout* when it came to Harlow?"

A time before the New Town



By LOUISE SASSOON

FOllowing on from last week's piece about the former Burnt Mill railway, I thought it might be a good time to take a look at what life was like when the village itself existed.

Sadly, Burnt Mill was the only one of several small communities which was completely flattened to make way for the New Town. But in its day it was a lively community in the parish of Nettewell with 60 houses, shops and two clubs as well as the railway station.

Burnt Mill was closely linked with Little Parndon, Nettewell Cross, Spurriers and St Andrew's where many of the villagers were christened or married.

Once a predominantly agricultural area, the life and soul of the village was born when a factory which specialised in making items for the Navy moved its base to the former mill which is now home to Harlow Outdoors Pursuits centre.

The factory closed in 1932 but the



STREET SCENE: An old photograph of The Avenue in Burnt Mill

village survived purely because of the enterprise the business brought to it.

It is thought about 40 or so families displaced during the building of the New Town still live in Harlow. Dorothy Collingridge, (79) is one of them and told *Nostalgia* she has fond memories of her childhood there.

"I lived at the back of a sweet shop called Mrs Bonney. I was there from when I was eight; I moved there with my mother from

Debden.

"I used to go to the local Sunday school – there was a chapel in the village. My mother used to belong to the Women's Institute and used to knit socks during the war for the women's forces. Everybody knew everybody."

She added: "I was married and had moved out when they demolished the village but my mother had to move into a flat. It was really very sad and it seemed unnecessary to take all of that."

FROM THE PAGES OF THE STAR . . . 25 YEARS AGO

BIG EFFORTS SAVE THE DAY AFTER CLUB FIRE

Fire severely damaged STL's Sports and Social Club in London Road on Sunday. But efforts of staff and outside contractors meant that it was open again at lunchtime on Monday.

PETROL DANGER

An Austin 1300 car taken from the Woodhill garage area in Harlow was found at Honey Hill with a severed petrol hose. "This had been deliberately done to cause injury to whoever found the car," said a Harlow police spokeswoman.

THIEVES RAID KIDS' CLUB

Heartless thieves broke into the Katherine's Kids Klub premises on Sunday night and stole most of the food and gifts that were to have been used for a children's party the following day. But in true Christmas spirit, the organisers decided the show must go on and about 55 children aged between 5 and 10 had their party.

FIRE CHIEF'S WARNING

Mike Thomason, the new assistant divisional officer in charge of Harlow fire station has given a warning to residents about the danger of the festive period saying "many lives are lost at Christmas." He gave the stark message as he laid out his hopes and aspirations for his career within his new post.

Has anything in the columns of this week's *Nostalgia* jogged your memory? Why not share them with Star readers by writing to *Nostalgia*, Harlow Star, 6 West Gate, The High, Harlow, Essex CM20 1JW or send an email to star@hertsessexnews.co.uk

Access to your local NHS over the festive holiday



West Essex

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NHS staff provide health advice and treatment 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year, and the holiday period is no exception.

You can help the NHS by thinking whether you have a real emergency, or whether it is something which could be dealt with by your GP, pharmacist or by ringing NHS Direct on 0845 46 47.

If the situation is critical or life-threatening go to your nearest accident and emergency department or call 999 for an ambulance.

An emergency is a critical or life-threatening situation such as:

- unconsciousness
- heavy bleeding
- suspected broken bones
- a deep wound, like a stab wound
- chest pains for 15 minutes or more
- breathing difficulties – if someone is struggling for breath or turning blue
- overdose, swallowing something harmful or poisonous
- a rash that does not fade when you press a glass tumbler or finger against it.

For 24/7 help and advice - NHS Direct also has an authoritative website – www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk – and a digital service on Sky Interactive and Freeview channel 100.

Anyone calling NHS Direct will be asked for some basic information, including details of any medication you are taking. If you are calling on behalf of someone else, you will need to provide this information about them.

NHS Direct will assess your problem and advise you on the best course of action. You may be told how you can look after yourself at home, or you may be recommended to see a pharmacist. If it is something more serious, you may be advised to see another health professional, such as your doctor. If the problem is very serious, you may need an ambulance.

NHS Direct can help with information on many health topics, offer advice on looking after your

health, and details of local doctors, pharmacists, dentists and support groups.

There is also a confidential interpreter service available in many languages. A textphone service - 0845 606 4647 - is also available if you are deaf or hard of hearing.

Calls to NHS Direct cost a maximum of 5p per minute from a BT landline. The cost of calls from mobiles and other networks may vary. You may be charged a minimum cost per call.

Need to see a GP? - Most GP practices in the NHS West Essex area now offer extended hours. This means it is easier for people to get appointments to see their doctor with surgeries open early in the morning (before 8am), in the evenings (after 6.30pm) and on Saturday mornings.

You will be able to speak to a doctor for medical advice, visit a clinician at a local primary care centre or if clinically necessary a doctor will visit you at home.

Outside normal opening hours you should call the out-of-hours service operated by PELC (Partnership of East London Co-operatives) on 020 8911 1133.

- Look out for your GP practice leaflet coming through your door soon.

Walk in for advice and treatment - The Harlow Walk-in Centre at Wych Elm, in Harlow - telephone number 01279 694775 - is open for advice and treatment of minor injuries and illnesses daily between 8am and 10pm.

The Walk-in Centre deals with:

- contraceptive advice
- coughs, colds and flu-like symptoms
- ear infections
- information on staying healthy and health promotion
- minor cuts and wounds – dressings and care
- muscle and joint injuries – strains and sprains
- skin complaints – rashes, sunburn and headache



stomach ache, indigestion, constipation, vomiting and diarrhoea

- support for stopping smoking
- women's health problems, thrush and menstrual advice

Car parking is available in the multi-storey car park opposite. Disabled parking is available.

Community clinics will be closed as usual at weekends and during the bank holidays, otherwise normal opening hours apply.

Ask your pharmacist

Pharmacists are medicines experts and can provide you with on-the-spot advice and treatment about many common health problems, like tummy troubles, allergies, aches and pains and viruses (like coughs and colds).

In Harlow, the holiday pharmacy service is:

December 25 and 26 - Metwest Pharmacy, 7-8 Staple Tie, Harlow (10.30am to 11.30am)

January 1 - Sainsbury Pharmacy, Allende Avenue, Harlow (10am to 6pm); Boots, 37 Broad Walk, Harlow (10am to 4pm); Medicare, 1 Summers Hatch, Broadway Road, Harlow (noon to 1pm).

'Stay at home' with winter virus

ANYONE suffering from the winter virus that causes diarrhoea and vomiting should stay away from work or school and not visit relatives in hospital until they have been free of symptoms for 48 hours.

Patients with the virus do not need hospital treatment, except in exceptional circumstances, as the illness tends to run its course and resolve itself without the need for medical attention.

Symptoms include nausea (feeling sick), a sudden onset of vomiting, diarrhoea, stomach pains or cramps, headaches, fever and tiredness.

Although the symptoms tend to pass after one or two days, people can remain infectious for up to 48 hours afterwards.

Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust medical director Dr Sandra Dimmock (pictured) said: "The winter vomiting disease can pass from one person to another very easily. It is unpleasant but rarely serious and most people make a full recovery within one or two days."

"The virus can be more serious for very sick and vulnerable patients and that's why we urge people to stay away from hospital."

She added: "If you have the virus, it's important to wash and dry your hands thoroughly after going to the toilet and before you handle food to prevent the virus being passed on to others."

"There is no specific treatment for the virus and the general advice is to drink lots of water and take lots of rest."

Amanda Kirkham, NHS West Essex's community matron in infection control, said good hygiene was the key to avoiding the infection and preventing its spread. This included thorough hand washing with soap and water, especially after using the toilet.

Keeping toilet and bathroom areas clean will also help limit the spread to others in the household.

There is no specific treatment for the bug apart from letting it run its course. However people with symptoms should ensure they drink plenty of fluids in order to avoid dehydration.

If the illness persists for more than a few days people should contact their GP by phone or take advice from NHS Direct on 0845 46 47.



Dr Sandra Dimmock



Banker cleared of manslaughter but brother faces retrial

A BANKER accused of killing a pleasure boat captain in a drunken brawl has been cleared of manslaughter.

The Old Bailey jury unanimously acquitted Christopher Liddard (23) of Challinor, Harlow, at the end of a two-week trial. He was also found not guilty on charges of affray and assault occasioning actual bodily harm.

CHRISTOPHER LIDDARD

His brother Andrew (28), of Plomer Avenue, Hoddesdon – who was also charged with manslaughter and assault occasioning actual bodily harm – faces the possibility of a retrial after the jury was unable to reach a verdict.

The Crown Prosecution Service is expected to announce next month whether it will seek a new trial.

During the trial the prosecution alleged that Christopher Liddard started a fight which led to the death of pleasure boat

crewman Michael Reed (67), who died of a heart attack after Andrew Liddard punched him in the face, it is said.

Trouble flared when both brothers were thrown off the Millennium of Peace pleasure boat at Tower Bridge Pier on the night of June 2 after drunkenly abusing passengers.

The Old Bailey heard Christopher Liddard aimed a punch at Mr Reed's colleague, Martin Welsh, before Andrew Liddard waded in and struck Mr Reed

Giving evidence, Christopher Liddard admitted he had lost his temper but said he then tried to calm his brother when he was being restrained.

Earlier the jury was told Christopher Liddard had admitted a charge of common assault for which he is due to be sentenced on January 30 next year.

ANDREW LIDDARD



Maddy book 'will stand up in court'

By CHRIS MOSS
moss@hertsessexnews.co.uk

A FORMER solicitor who has written a controversial new book about the disappearance of three-year-old Madeleine McCann claims "every sentence" would stand up to scrutiny in a court of law.

Tony Bennett (61), of Chippingfield, Old Harlow, has risked the wrath of Kate and Gerry McCann's lawyers after publishing *What Really Happened To Madeleine McCann?* in which he claims the little girl was not kidnapped.

In the 64-page book Mr Bennett questions the McCanns' version of events on the night their daughter was reported missing from the Portuguese holiday apartment where the family were staying in May 2007.

The McCanns have already won huge libel payouts from Express Newspapers for publishing stories alleging the couple were responsible for their daughter's death.

But speaking to the **Star** on Monday, Mr Bennett appeared unconcerned about the possibility of expensive legal action.

"I've spent a long time researching this book," he said. "I've looked at all the evidence found by Portuguese police in great detail and I'm confident every sentence would stand up in court should it come to that."

The £3 paperback, which has been released as the McCanns prepare to launch a second high-profile Christmas appeal for help finding their daughter, has already been purchased by hundreds of people from Mr Bennett's website. He has also sent copies to the national press.

Mr Bennett is no stranger to controversy over the case. In November last year he attempted to prosecute the couple under the Children and



Young Person's Act after claiming they were guilty of child neglect.

He also complained to the Office of Communications after being subjected to a barrage of abuse from radio talk show host James Whale who called him "despicable and disgusting" for his attempts to bring a private prosecution against the McCanns.

A spokesman for the McCanns was unavailable for comment as the **Star** went to press.

Tories accused over 'care-free' priorities

A SIX-point plan outlining Harlow Council's must-do projects over the next three years has been criticised for showing a lack of care.

Opposition councillors criticised the Conservative administration's corporate priorities which were rubber-stamped at Thursday's full council meeting.

Top of the list is regeneration followed by other key projects including the promotion of a cleaner town and tackling housing need.

But the list did not win the support of Labour or Liberal Democrat councillors because it omitted one of the previous administration's key priorities which set out to promote a caring community with a high quality of life.

It also failed to mention the council's commitment to keeping its housing stock or discretionary services on which many people in the town rely.

Council leader Andrew Johnson said the document had been compiled following a lengthy period of consultation and represented what a majority of the town's residents who voted the Conservatives into power wanted.

Answering the critics, he added: "It also doesn't mention we have a couple of horses at Pets Corner or that we will continue to collect council tax."

"We cannot be all things to all men and all women; there is an awful lot of good in these priorities."

Knife-wielding teen slashed man's face

A TEENAGER who attacked a 60-year-old man at a recycling point in Harlow has been sent to a young offenders institution for three-and-a-half years.

Chelmsford Crown Court was told the 17-year-old stole the victim's car keys and then forced him to drive the vehicle before ordering him to get out.

The youth, who cannot be named for legal reasons, was warned that if he carried on as he had been, he ran the risk of receiving an indefinite prison sentence.

The attack happened on May 4 this year when the victim, Tony Brightley, was visiting the Tesco recycling centre in Edinburgh Way, Harlow.

The court was told that dur-

ing the assault Mr Brightley sustained a four-inch gash to his face which was caused by the blade of a modelling knife wielded by the defendant.

The youth pleaded guilty to charges of malicious wounding, robbery and two counts of driving while banned.

He was sentenced to three-and-a-half years detention for the robbery, 18 months for the wounding and four months for driving while banned, all to run concurrently. He was also banned from driving for a further two months.

Passing sentence, Judge Anthony Goldstaub told him: "If you appear before a crown court again you are liable to be detained indefinitely."



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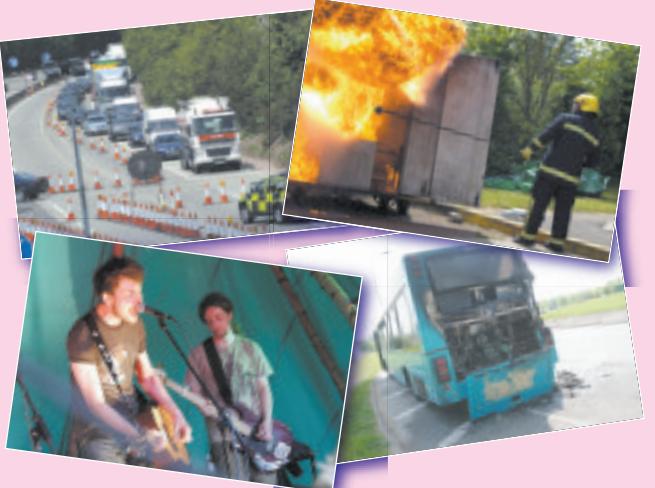
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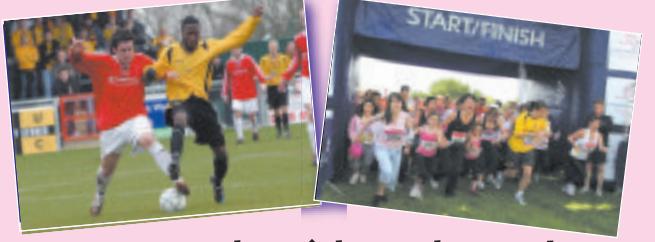
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Airport protest

SIR, I heard the security chief for Stansted stating that the airport area was in excess of 2,000 acres and this was how last week's demonstrators managed to invade the area.

He also stated the unarmed, peaceful demonstrators were restricted so that they did not get on the actual runway and reinforcements were blocked from also gaining access.

The important part of the statement was that the airport security could not stop 38 unarmed demonstrators because of the size of the airport perimeter. How much more chance of breakthrough will there be should the airport be extended to permit the second runway?

What could the present security do should a party of 30 armed terrorists decide to invade and blow up Stansted?

With the extension making Stansted bigger than Heathrow, it would become a prime target, especially as it is out in the wilds. The main party could have pockets of reinforcements taking over lonely houses in the vicinity, thus putting the airport's neighbours at risk as well as inflicting extra noise and air pollution on them.

What will BAA do about this danger to British people, bearing in mind that they are a foreign conglomerate, primarily interested in making a large profit?

Richard W. Turner
North Street, Nazeing

English suffers

SIR, I class English and maths as two of the most important subjects in education, viewed by many as two of the factors most helpful towards obtaining a good ordinary job from which people are likely to progress. Having moved from another area, I am surprised at the generally poor English spoken by so many within Harlow (including some written official documentation from Harlow Council). This has really surprised me.

I looked at the key achievements of the Harlow 2020 Partnership, only to find within it (foot of page 12) this statement: "The number of pupils achieving good results in English and maths in Harlow still remains below the national average."

That seems an honest statement and I applaud its boldness. Therefore, an improvement in the teaching of both subjects should be an absolute top priority for the heads of all our schools and especially the Harlow Education Consortium, who I imagine all read the *Star*!

A. Buckman
Harlow (full address supplied - Editor)

Parking charge

SIR, I was wondering if somebody could look into the charges and practices at the Harvey Centre car park.

I have been using this car park on Sundays for many months when I go to the gym as it has been free but last Sunday when I went to the exit barrier and inserted my ticket it came up that I needed to pay.

I pressed the help button on the machine and informed the car park attendant that I was not aware of any charge and that if I had known I would have parked somewhere else for free as I did not have any money on me.

The attendant told me that the sign on the entrance informed drivers of the charges on Sundays. Once we checked and advised the attendant this was not the case he said there were boards detailing Sunday charges near the pay stations. I advised him that I had not passed the pay stations and if they had the charges at the entrance I would not have entered the car park.

There was then a stand-off where I

Nightmare on the buses

SIR, I have become hugely disillusioned by the public transport situation in Harlow after I discovered that it was quicker to walk to my destination than to take a bus.

I dropped my son off at school and chose to catch a bus into town on my way to Harlow Town station since the walk would normally take me 40 minutes and that would have made me a few minutes late for my train.

Cycling the distance would take 15 minutes but that would involve replacing the bike I'd had stolen from outside the station a few minutes earlier.

I started by waiting 15 minutes for a bus but was pleased to see that the route information displayed on the front of the bus included the railway station. I asked for a ticket to the station and was sold a ticket.

I then spent the next 35 minutes enduring a convoluted tour of Harlow designed, presumably, to maximise town coverage whilst reducing the number of services actually running in the town. Five years ago, before I chose to cycle instead of paying a fare that had increased by 20 per cent in a year, the journey took 15-20 minutes. In five years time I suspect that Harlow will be left with one single bus taking around three hours to complete a circuit.

Further evidence of the inadequacy of the service on which I was trapped continued to bewilder as the bus spent around two minutes at every stop whilst fellow sufferers queued to pay, struggled with pushchairs and jostled around looking for somewhere to stand among the near capacity crowd already on board.

We eventually made it to the Terminus Street bus station,

waited at the exit for over 15 minutes as I did not have any money. In this time five other people people did not know of the Sunday charge and had to go to park up, pay and then exit again after the attendant told them the charges were displayed on the entrance.

He then went on to tell me they had been operating like this for eight weeks and that I should have known to pay when I was at the car park a couple of Sundays before. On that occasion there was an attendant at the barrier who raised it without informing me of any new charges.

Eventually the attendant said that if I was going to quibble over 20 pence then he would pay it himself and raised the barrier to let me out.

I feel this problem should be rectified, even if it is just for 20 pence, as I believe they have to display the charges on the entrance to the car park. The car park operator should also check for all cars that have paid this charge using its number plate recognition system and contact the owners to reimburse them or place a notice in the newspaper or at the entrance to the car park informing people on how to claim back their money.

Mark Sturman
(address supplied - Editor)

Praise for PAH

SIR, Further to your report headlined 'Daughter's anger at hospital patient care' (*Star*, December 11), I recently spent two weeks in Locke Ward at Princess Alexandra Hospital and must say I was extremely impressed by the hard work and dedication of the wonderful nursing team.

Each patient was treated with care, consideration and a great deal of

respect for their privacy and dignity, as were the families and relatives of patients on the ward. No matter how difficult their day, the staff still managed to make time for everyone with a warm smile, kind words, comfort and good humour.

They are a truly professional team with very high standards which would be very difficult to beat. They have an extremely efficient and well-run ward which is spotlessly clean, and a tremendous credit to their hard work and dedication.

With regards to Mrs Oliver's complaint that her father had not been washed for five days, this would never have happened on Locke Ward as first thing every morning the nurses would go around and ask every patient if they would like any help with washing or dressing.

Mrs Oliver also said a patient's catheter bag was overflowing. I would suggest that as these are regularly checked by the nurses this was a simple case of the tube pulling out, not the bag over flowing. And on her point about the blood-soaked tissue laying on the floor for hours, why did she not point this out to the nurses who would have only been to happy sort it out and wash the floor?

I feel quite sure that had Mrs Oliver or her father tried communicating with staff, these problems could very easily have been sorted out. Ask a nurse and they will be very happy to help.

I would be most grateful if you could convey my thanks to the all of the staff at this wonderful hospital for the kindness and care shown not only to me but to everyone on the ward. They really are an amazing team, who I am immensely proud to have met. To know that people like this are working in our great NHS is fantastic.

Edward Fagan
Tassell Hall, Redbourn

Civic offices Fail the energy test

By LOUISE SASSOON, News Editor
sassoon@hertsessexnews.co.uk

COUNCIL chiefs have been left red-faced over their green credentials after their town centre offices were given one of the worst energy efficiency ratings.

Energy watchdogs have said more must be done to reduce the carbon footprint of the Civic Centre and recommended the council considers installing wind turbines and solar panels to cut down electricity consumption.

Staff are now being told to avoid using electric fans, heaters and reading lamps as part of a short-term strategy to reduce energy emissions at the Water Gardens building until realistic options for future energy saving are thought up.

Earlier this year the council signed up to the Nottingham Convention, committing the authority to do its utmost to reduce its impact on the environment.

It is also actively encouraging residents to recycle more and only a few weeks ago announced it would be advising householders on energy-saving measures for their homes.

Former councillor Jane Steer told the Star: "They knew this would take place and they did nothing to try to improve it. It is setting an extremely bad example to residents."

"I can hear in my mind now people saying 'If they can't be bothered, why should we?' That will not help any of us."

In his report, the energy inspector said the kWh consumption of the building needs to be almost halved in order for it to improve its 'F' rating to an average 'D'. The best rating is 'A' and the worst 'G'.



INEFFICIENT: Harlow's Civic Centre received an 'F' rating for energy consumption

Two other council-run buildings – The Playhouse theatre and the Leah Manning Centre – received 'B' and 'E' ratings respectively.

Susie Squire, campaign manager for the TaxPayers' Alliance, said: "As families tighten their belts in the credit crunch their council should be doing all it can to save them money, not literally throwing it down the drain with such carelessness."

"There are simple and inexpensive ways to make a building energy efficient and the council should be doing more to ensure that it keeps costs down."

A council spokesman said: "Cutting our carbon footprint is an issue we are taking very seriously and we have major plans for doing this. An energy action plan, which has already been discussed in draft, is due to be considered again soon. It proposes a wide range of initiatives and measures for the Civic Centre and other buildings."

"While the rating for the Civic Centre is disappointing, it does give us a good base for making energy efficiency improvements. We have issued guidance to staff on what they can do to help and we will be monitoring energy usage regularly."

Baby P protest pair to launch support group

THE mother and daughter team behind Saturday's 500-strong protest march demanding the sacking of social workers involved in the Baby P tragedy have vowed to continue their work helping other victims of child abuse.

Stacey Crisp (21), of Milwards, Harlow and her mother Mandy Francis (51), formerly of Barn Mead, said they were pleased with the turnout for the demonstration in central London.

They are now planning to concentrate their efforts on establishing a charitable trust to support abused babies and children.

"Considering the terrible weather we had over the weekend we were very pleased with the number of people who turned up on the march," said Miss Crisp.



NEVER AGAIN: Stacey Crisp and Mandy Francis (wearing blue T-shirts) hand in the petition to 10 Downing Street

"As well as those joining the demonstration on the day, we had another 20,000 people sign a petition calling for justice which we handed in to 10 Downing Street as we made our way across London."

They now want to establish the Abused Babies and Children (ABC) Foundation, an organisation to offer support to victims of child abuse.

"Hopefully it will stop

other kids from ending up like Baby P," said Miss Crisp.

While Saturday's march was taking place, hundreds of balloons were released in Harlow in memory of Baby P.

Organiser Renee Smyth, of Milwards, said the balloon release in a field in Common Road was attended by mothers. "It was very emotional but we all felt much better afterwards," she added.

Police quiz suspect over spate of robberies

POLICE are questioning a man about a string of robberies in Harlow and Hertfordshire which included three on milkmen.

The suspect is being held in connection with the series of crimes dating back to November 13 when a robbery took place in Pyenest Road, Harlow, in which a milkman had more than £100 of cash stolen.

Over the weekend petrol was stolen from a service station in Tillwicks Road, Harlow and two milkmen were targeted in Hertfordshire. On Tuesday a milkman was robbed of his mobile and cash in Little Pynchons, Harlow.

Later that same day a taxi driver was robbed after he picked up a man from Harlow Mill station. He was then ordered to drive to Sawbridgeworth where the thief stole his mobile phone, sat-nav and cash.

A 21-year-old man was arrested in Harlow in connection with a total of eight offences including car theft, mugging and robbery.

A 19-year-old man arrested on Monday in connection with the crimes has been released on police bail.

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OAP warns of asbestos 'timebomb'

A PENSIONER who was forced to leave her home after a fire damaged floor tiles containing asbestos fears the presence of the material in council houses could be a "ticking timebomb".

Olga Sewell (71), of Ladyshot, Harlow, was told by housing officers she would have to temporarily move out of her property while the asbestos was dealt with.

She said a surveyor brought in to assess the damage told her it had been used in the construction of council properties across the town.

"I was surprised to say the least," said Mrs Sewell. "He told me it was used in houses all over Harlow. I had no idea it was so prevalent. The worry is that people who are ripping up their flooring or doing other home improvement tasks aren't aware of the danger they could be putting themselves and their families in."

Although asbestos only poses a risk to health if it is disturbed or damaged, anyone sanding, sawing or drilling anything containing the mineral will be putting themselves in danger.

By CHRIS MOSS
moss@hertsessexnews.co.uk

Asbestos was used extensively in house-building between the 1950s and 1980s. Exposure to the fibres can cause lung cancer, mesothelioma and asbestosis.

"This nasty stuff is a ticking timebomb for anyone who doesn't realise it's there," said Mrs Sewell.

But a Harlow Council spokesman said there was no risk from asbestos providing it was properly maintained and said it had compiled a data base of properties in which it was present.

"Tenants must get the council's permission before they add, alter, replace or improve anything in their home," he added. "At this point tenants would be advised whether any building materials they plan to work on may contain asbestos."

If tenants think they may disturb asbestos when carrying out minor DIY work in their home, they should seek advice either from the Health and Safety Executive website or from the council."

Newsbriefs

EDUCATION: A new magazine promoting educational opportunities in Harlow is to be launched next month. The publication, *fourteen2nineteen*, is aimed at young people and will raise awareness about education in the town. It is being edited by mum-of-two Sally MacKowan, (43), of Churchgate Street, who said: "I think it's important that we get the message out there about all the fantastic opportunities that are available in this area."

CHARITY: Harlow Council is now an official supporter of the Help for Heroes campaign to raise cash for members of the armed forces injured in action. Council chairman Tony Hall said: "We all have a moral duty to support those whose job it is to risk their lives on our behalf and who may face a life of disability or trauma from injury or what they endure. At this time of giving I hope people will remember worthwhile charities such as Help for Heroes and I am pleased to lend my support to raise its profile here in Harlow."

SCHOOLS: Three schools in Harlow are celebrating after being chosen for a project to develop the teaching and learning of Mandarin Chinese and China across the curriculum in UK schools. Burnt Mill, Passmores and Stewards are among the first combined partnership schools in the country to have been chosen for the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust Confucius Institute project. The schools will work alongside the newly opened Jiangsu Centre at the Harlow Study Centre to strengthen ties with the Chinese community, one of the biggest in Essex.

FIREWORKS: The cost of this year's council-run firework display in Harlow was almost double that of the previous year. Figures obtained under the Freedom of Information Act show the council splashed out £17,970 on last month's free show in the Town Park compared to £10,420 in 2007.

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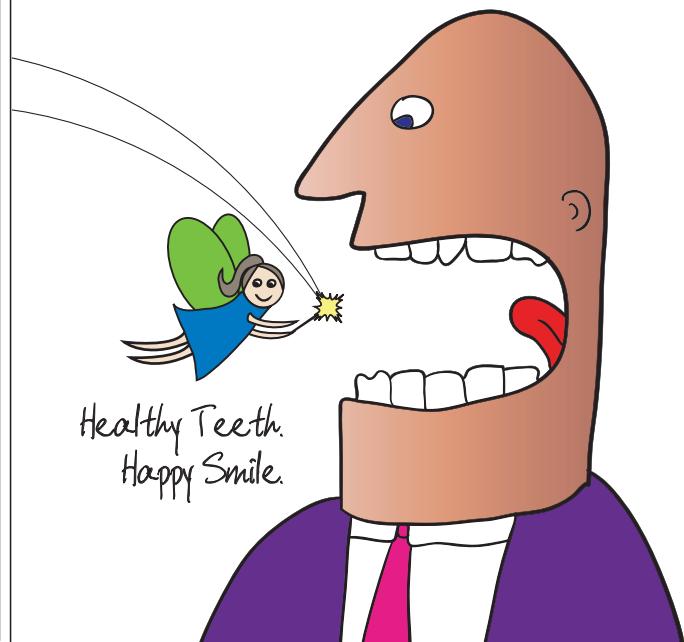
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Judge raps prisoner for jail cell protest

A PRISONER who twice refused to leave his cell to go to court because he feared he would then be sent to a tougher jail was told by a judge that being in prison "wasn't an invitation to a party".

Judge David Turner told Mark Rhead (20), of Ladyshot, Harlow: "If everyone did it the system would grind to a halt."

The judge, sitting at Chelmsford Crown Court, then sentenced Rhead to eight months in prison for handling stolen property and his two failures to appear in court, to run concurrent to a five-month sentence already imposed.

Rhead's jail protests occurred on November 24 and 25. Although he was being held in the category C Hollesley Bay prison, Rhead feared he could have ended up in a higher category jail.

Judge Turner referred to the system under which prisoners can leave one prison and end up in another as "the chum".

"It involves a prisoner leaving one jail and by the end of the day he's in another. From a human view I have some sympathy," he said.

"I give you the benefit of the doubt for the bail matters – I expect you were motivated by the desire to stay in the place the system decided to put you – but if everyone did it the system would grind to a halt."

Rhead admitted handling a stolen Vauxhall Corsa and a car registration plate worth a total £1,060. The offences occurred back in January, weeks after he had been given a nine-month suspended sentence for attempted burglary.

He received five months jail for the original offence which he was serving at the time of his later court appearances.

Delighted dozen elected to youth council



DEMOCRACY swung into action when young people throughout the town elected 12 new councillors to sit on Harlow Youth Council for the next four years. More than 3,000 youngsters from across the town cast their vote in a 35 per cent turnout as schools and council-run services turned into polling stations for a week.

Eight of the 12 – Suliman Ahmad, Nishall Garala, Shayne Grace, Paul Gould, Ashley Horton, Dean McAuley, Scott Menzies and Savannah Pisani – are pictured with Harlow Council chairman Tony Hall. Also elected were Emmanuel Ajadi, Ferrari Ayliffe, Nicole Munns and Jake Patterson.

They will all take up office in January when they will join the 12 existing youth councillors to make a 24-strong council.

(photo: KPGCPDP/03)

Prize a dream come true for rally fan Tim

A COUPLE who won a competition run by a chewing gum manufacturer enjoyed the thrills and spills of the world rally car championship in Cardiff.

Tim and Linda Ward, of Arkwrights, Harlow, met British driver Matthew Wilson, experienced a co-drive in a Mitsubishi Evolution and enjoyed the atmosphere of the final rally of the 2008 season.

"It was an amazing experience meeting Matthew," said Mr Ward. "The atmosphere at the event was superb and being a rally fan it was certainly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

Mr Wilson said: "I'm delighted they enjoyed their experience. It's superb to be able to give something back to people such as Tim and Linda who spend so much of their time showing us their support."

Louis sets sail

NAVAL recruit Louis George, from Nettleswell, Harlow, has sailed through basic training and is now plotting a course for a life at sea.

Trainee technician Louis, who joined the Royal Navy in October, successfully completed a nine-week intensive course at HMS Raleigh in Cornwall."

His next port of call is HMS Sultan in Hampshire where he will learn how to make the necessary checks and repairs to Royal Navy aircraft.

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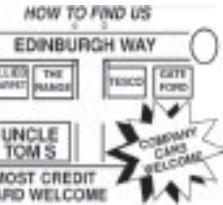
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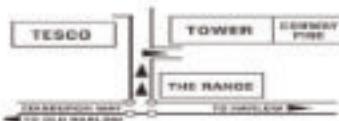
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Fitness clubs' funding boost

A VOLUNTEER fitness co-ordinator is celebrating after two clubs she set up received a cash boost.

Fun and Fitness gymnastics, based at Passmores School, and the Stewards Springers trampoline group have been awarded £10,000 and £2,000 respectively.

The money will go towards running costs and equipment for the classes which are organised by mum-of-three Karen Boylan.

Karen, who lives at Staple Tye, began the gymnastics group two years ago in response to what she perceived to be a lack of facilities in the area.

Since then the club has gone from strength to strength and she is hoping to expand her repertoire further by setting up a group dedicated to display gymnastics.

The trampoline club is also doing well after being established a few months ago. There is already enough interest from local children for Karen to be able to run two separate classes for different age groups.

But she said the groups would not be able to survive without the grants from Essex County Council's Youth Opportunity Fund.

"It's fantastic," she said. "There is nothing in the Staple Tye area of the town; everyone seems to want to put everything over the other side near Mark Hall. Being able to keep these clubs running and develop them by securing this money is just brilliant. "The £10,000 given to the gymnastics club will benefit 100-150 children because two clubs use the equipment."

The money has already funded a state-of-the-art air track which helps take the pressure off gymnasts' wrists



GYM-TASTIC: Karen Boylan with children from the Fun and Fitness gymnastics club (photo: R2QW22WH/02)

when practising, while the £2,000 awarded to the trampoline club will go towards running costs and a new trampette.

Trio honoured

THREE Harlow residents were among a group of 49 dedicated blood donors to be honoured by the National Blood Service at a recent awards ceremony.

All have donated blood on at least 75 occasions and 11 of them were commended for reaching the milestone of 100 or more donations. The Harlow trio receiving awards were Irene Truby (70), of Spinning Wheel Mead, Alan Owen (58), of Church End, and Andrew Woollard (54), of Dunstalls. They were presented with crystal plates.

An NBS spokesman said: "Only three per cent of donors reach their 75th donation, while less than one percent make it to 100 donations.

"We are proud to reward these silent heroes, who have rolled up their

sleeves so many times over the years to help save lives.

"Only four per cent of the eligible population donate blood so the majority of people are indebted to these individuals who selflessly give their time for the benefit of others."

Family support

BARCLAYS Bank staff in Harlow have teamed up with one of the UK's leading children's charities - Action for Children - by buying and wrapping a bumper delivery of Christmas presents for youngsters. More than 95 gifts including games, puzzles, cuddly toys, dressing up outfits, books and stationery have been wrapped and delivered to the charity which will distribute them to families which it supports.

The gifts were bought and wrapped as part of a Christmas team challenge undertaken by more than 850 Barclays staff volunteers from across the eastern region.

Sarah Hackett from the bank's Terminus Street branch in Harlow town centre said: "This has been a fantastic opportunity to take part in a project supporting families with young children at this time of year.

"I'm really proud Barclays encourages me and my colleagues to give time as well as money to make a difference to a cause that matters."

Food for thought

SHAPE up for a healthier way of life with MEND. That's the invitation to young people in Harlow.

MEND - which stands for Mind, Exercise, Nutrition, Do it...! - is aimed at 7-13 year-olds and their parents or carers and encourages families to be more active and to gain a better understanding of food. The West Essex Primary Care Trust wants more people to sign up to the free 10-week course being planned for the new year. Contact Rebecca Margetts on (01279) 827443 for more details.

Club's quids in

LIQUID, the Harlow town centre nightspot, will be urging clubgoers to support its Give A Kid A Quid campaign this Christmas.

The campaign, which is being supported by Hollyoaks hunk Ricky Whittle who plays police officer Calvin Valentine in the popular Channel 4 soap, will run at venues operated by Luminar Leisure and the 3D Entertainment Group, from December 12 - January 1.

The idea is that staff will simply ask customers to donate £1 as they pass through the doors.

Gifts from the heart



VOLUNTEERS from the Harlow branch of the Samaritan's Purse charity loaded up thousands of shoeboxes filled with Christmas gifts for underprivileged children in Belarus.

Thousands of boxes filled with gifts collected from throughout the Harlow area were put on to a lorry in West Gate on Saturday to start the three-day journey to eastern Europe.

And there to lend a hand loading them on to the lorry was

Harlow MP Bill Rammell. The Operation Christmas Child campaign has been supported by schools and firms throughout the area.

Branch spokeswoman Sue Bree said the presents were greatly appreciated by those receiving them.

"Belarus is a country which has known a lot of problems in the past and there are a lot of children who wouldn't otherwise get anything for Christmas," she said.

**Sainsbury's Harlow
is open longer
for you this Christmas.**

21

24

**We're open 24 hours
6am Monday 22 December
until
6pm Christmas Eve.**

Government must invest in town now says council

COUNCIL chiefs are to lobby Whitehall in a bid to help Harlow through the recession.

Councillors want the Government to bring forward planned spending and investment in the town in order to boost the local economy.

Liberal Democrat Chris Millington tabled a motion at Thursday's full council meeting calling on the authority to publish an urgent action plan highlighting measures it intends to take to help Harlow residents and businesses through the recession.

An amended version of the motion was agreed after Conservative councillor Simon Carter rattled off a list of measures currently under way to address the issue.

But he added: "We can only do so much. As a result of high energy costs, high inflation, falling income and the impact of the credit crunch and recession, not to mention profligate previous administrations, our resources are very limited. It has to be up to the Government to bring forward investment to provide employment and new infrastructure."

He said a Government Growth Area Funding grant of £14.2m will have to be shared over two years with six other councils and said the town was in desperate need of a northern bypass to cope with the planned development of Harlow North.

Harlow MP Bill Rammell said this week he would do everything he could to win more funding for the town. "Under this Government, support to local government increased 39 per cent above inflation in the first decade in office, and is up by an extra £8.9bn through this current three-year settlement," he said.

Lucky Tegan tucks into breakfast with Santa

IT was a day to remember for five-year-old Tegan Sellick when she tucked into a Sunday morning breakfast with Santa.

That was the prize won by her mum Sarah, of Mallows Green, Harlow, in a **Star** competition run in conjunction with the Lakeside shopping centre and Giraffe Restaurant.

Tegan was accompanied by her mum and friend Dylan for the magical day out.

"We were so excited to win this fantastic competition," said Sarah. "It was a lovely way to begin Christmas."

Tegan was over the moon and hasn't stopped telling everyone she meets about winning the competition and meeting Santa."

● Other winners of recent competitions in the **Star** are as follows:

Family tickets to Cinderella at the Rhodes Arts Complex. June Wicks, Tunnehead, Harlow; J. Diesel, Broadfields, Harlow; John Dempster, Moorfield, Harlow; C. A. Brett, Elmbridge, Old Harlow.

Family tickets to Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs at The Playhouse. L. Richardson, Deer Park, Harlow; E. Peake, Fenton Grange, Harlow.



BREAKFAST BUDDIES: Tegan and her mum Sarah with Santa at Lakeside

Help the charity that offers hope to the homeless

FOR the past two weeks the **Star** has been asking readers to support an appeal by Streets2Homes for financial assistance so it can carry on its work helping the homeless in Harlow. This week we invited Robert Halfon, right, a patron of the charity, to write about his involvement with Streets2Homes and why he believes it is important that it continues to offer assistance to those most in need.



Not so long ago I met a wonderful man, an engineer by trade, who talked in detail to me about the mechanics of watches and clocks. Where did he tell me about all this? Was it at a conference? A business meeting? A factory? No. It was outside the Harlow Homeless Centre in Wych Elm. This highly intelligent, decent and interesting man was homeless. For a number of reasons he had fallen on hard times and had taken to drink. A few months later he was found dead. But in his last remaining months, because of Streets2Homes, John had been given a pass back to his humanity. The love and kindness of the volunteers of the centre had – for a few weeks – transformed John's life for the better. It wasn't just that John had been provided with food and clothing; it was because he had been given back his dignity.

Another time I was called by the centre director Patsy Dye and told that a regular visitor – a good and gentle chap – had been beaten up. When I asked why, I was told that some youths had done it for a laugh. They gave him a good kicking because he was sleeping rough.

When I visited him a few hours later he was still shaking and yet gently defiant. Streets2Homes was there to look after him, dress his wounds, offer a cup of tea and give some counselling.

A few years ago, in Broad Walk, I came across Ron Hetem, a great character who had also suffered some difficulties and was homeless. Streets2Homes offered Ron a way up. He now has a home thanks to his local church and he gives back to the centre by being a volunteer and resident photographer!

Ron is an amazing person and part of an incredible and cheerful group of volunteers who work day and night to cook meals, organise events and keep the centre tidy. The volunteers are central to Streets2Homes and the organisation would not exist without them. They are a living example of a group of passionate individuals putting service to others before themselves. They are the essence of all that is best about the community spirit in Harlow.

People sometimes ask me why I am so involved with the centre in fundraising and other activities. My answer is simple: Harlow Homeless Centre is a place that has opened my eyes and touched my heart.

Contrary to what some people think, homeless people are not vagrants or scroungers. Most have just had a run of very bad luck or serious misfortune. It doesn't matter whether you're rich or poor, with a university degree or no education, any of us could be homeless one day if we suffer from such a misfortune.

It's because of organisations like Streets2Homes that homeless people will always have a hope of a better life – or even that the life they once knew will return.

I wish all **Star** readers a most happy Christmas and New Year and urge everyone to support Streets2Homes, whether it be through funds or offering your expertise. It is the best Christmas present you could give.

Police to target Christmas crime

A POLICE operation billed as the biggest the town has seen in recent years has been launched in a major crackdown on crime and disorder over the Christmas and New Year period.

The six-pronged approach will see drugs dogs enter licensed premises in and around Harlow and portable knife detectors placed at random locations.

Known criminals will be sent Christmas cards warning them if they carry on their illegal activity they will continue to be arrested and notes will be slipped into unlocked cars and unsecured properties to remind owners about the importance of keeping valuables safe and secure.

By LOUISE SASSOON
News Editor
sassoon@hertsessexnews.co.uk

Extra officers will also be drafted in to carry out high-visibility patrols in trouble hot-spots and other locations in order to deter troublemakers and keep the peace as well as reduce repeat offending and prevent shoplifting in the town centre.

The crackdown, dubbed Operation Christmas Tree, marks the first time a series of smaller operations have been co-ordinated to run together to reduce trouble into the New Year.

Inspector Andy Bray, of Harlow police, told the **Star**: "This is not just targeted at members of the public. We want to ensure

they stay safe but we want to make sure known criminals know we are out there to visit them and monitor their behaviour.

"We will be letting them know that if they continue committing offences they will carry on being arrested. It is a call for them to change their ways for the New Year."

As part of the operation, club managers can make it compulsory for revellers to pass through a knife detecting arch before they enter the premises.

Police are also understood to have been given the nod by all licence holders in the town and surrounding areas to allow sniffer dogs on to premises to search for drugs.

Mr Bray added: "What we want to say is go out and enjoy yourselves but use some common sense and treat people as you would like to be treated yourself."

Town marks anniversary of UN rights declaration

HARLOW hosted a signing ceremony to re-enforce the town's support for human rights across the world.

Harlow Council chairman Tony Hall, pictured right, was joined by Robert Mountstevens, a member of the Harlow branch of the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The ceremony took place on the 60th anniversary of the day it was adopted by the UN General Assembly on December 10, 1948.

It represented the first global expression of rights to which all human beings are entitled.

The replica declaration will hang in the Civic Centre council chamber alongside a previous one presented to the council in 1969.

Mr Hall said: "This year is the 60th anniversary of the declaration which is an important



(photo: ZQPZ7BH/03)

global document outlining our human rights. The declaration strives to deliver a truly inclusive society for us all to live in."

Don't be Bashful, spend some time with Snow White at Harlow Playhouse this Christmas!

New Pantomime Productions Ltd in association with Harlow Playhouse proudly present

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Sun 11am – 5pm, Mon & Tues 9am – 8pm, New Years Eve 9am – 6pm, New Years Day
9am – 8pm, Fri 9am – 8pm, Sat 9am – 8pm, Sun 11am – 5pm.

Star Family Notices

VIEW ONLINE AT www.harlowstar.co.uk/starannouncements

Deaths

JOE BRANT

Passed away on 13th December 2008 at Princess Alexandra Hospital, aged 79 years.

Loving and devoted husband of Lil.

Will be greatly missed by all his family and many friends.

Funeral service will take place on 29th December at Parndon Wood Crematorium at 2pm.

Floral tributes may be sent c/o James Hawes and Goodchild Ltd, The Stow, Harlow, Essex, CM20 3AQ, Tel 01279 427362.

JOE BRANT

Joe, I miss you so much darling.

You were my world.

Thank you for our 52 wonderful years together.

God Bless, until we meet again my darling.

Your loving wife Lil. xxx

SANDRA MAIRIC

A loving wife, mother and nanny who will be sadly missed.

Rest In Peace.

Love Heribert, Michelle, Lee, Ben and Elizabeth.

James Hawes

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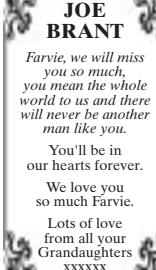
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Cherish the Memories
Share your kind thoughts & memories with the family & loved ones of those who have passed away by signing the On-line Guest book go to announcements at www.hertsessexnews.co.uk



BARRIE BROWNE

Sadly taken from his family on 12th December 2008. A kind and loving father and a good friend.

You will be missed. Love Claire, Martin, Charlie, Jack, Lewis and Matt. xxx

BARRIE BROWNE

A great dad to Mitchell, Ryan and Connor.

Fondly remembered, sadly missed. Sleep well.

Love Val, Eric, John and Mary.

MARGARET MARY CHAPMAN

Passed away peacefully on 14th December 2008. Aged 80 years.

The funeral service will take place at Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church, Harlow on Tuesday 30th December 2008 at 12.45.

All enquiries please contact Daniel Robinson & Sons, Wych Elm, Harlow, 01279 426990.

LORNA EELS

31-10-46 8-12-08 62 years, but still so young.

Will be sadly missed by your sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren, will love you always and forever.

Gary, Glen, Carolyn, Claire, Warren, Jack, Charlotte, Lucy and Daniel.

LORNA EELS

Taken so suddenly on Monday 8th December 2008.

To a wonderful daughter and best friend.

Thank you for all the help you have given me.

Fond memories, will love you forever, Mum.

JOYCE HARRIS

Passed away peacefully on 7th December 2008 after a long illness. The funeral will take place at Parndon Wood Crematorium on Friday 19th December 2008 at 2pm. Flowers or donations if desired made payable to 'Cystic Fibrosis' can be sent c/o Daniel Robinson and Sons, Wych Elm, Harlow. Telephone 01279 426990.

PAULINE IRIS HATWELL

Suddenly, but peacefully at home on 11th December 2008, aged 69 years.

The beloved wife of Bill, a dear Mum to Tony and Wendy and a wonderful and loving Nan to Joe, Becky and Lee.

She will be sadly missed by all her family and many friends. Pauline's funeral service is to be held on Monday 22nd December 2008, at Parndon Wood Crematorium at 11.00am.

All enquiries please to the funeral directors, Masterson Funeral Home, Station Road, Old Harlow, Essex, CM17 0AS. Tel: 01279 626238.

TAMAR COWEN.

Suddenly at home on 10th December 2008, aged 84 years. The dear Mum of Dan and Belinda, and a wonderful and loving Nan to Jenny, William, Benjamin, Elizabeth and Jonathan. Tam will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. The funeral service is to be held on Tuesday 23rd December 2008, at Parndon Wood Crematorium at 11.30 a.m. Family flowers only please, donations, if desired, to be divided between St Clare Hospice, The Chocolate Run, or Harlow Talking Newspapers For The Blind. (Cheques made payable to MFH Charities Account). All enquiries and donations to The Funeral Directors, Masterson Funeral Home, Station Road, Old Harlow, Essex, CM17 0AS. Tel: 01279 626238.

"LEN" RODGERS

1923 - 2008

God bless you and keep you safe.

Your loving wife Joyce

SIDNEY ALAN PAGE

27 Dec 1929 - 14 Dec 2008

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Sid Page on Sunday 14th December 2008 at 8.00 am.

Sid will be sadly missed by Jan, Nigel, Cliff, Simon and all his family.

Funeral to take place 24th December, 12 noon at Harlow Crematorium.

Please could any flowers be sent to Old Harlow Co-op Funeral Directors. Thank you

RUBY IRENE TURNER

Sadly passed away on Saturday 13th December 2008 aged 88 years.

The funeral is to take place at Parndon Wood Crematorium, on Tuesday 30th December 2008 at 12.30pm.

All enquiries please contact Daniel Robinson & Sons, Wych Elm, Harlow, 01279 426990.

LEONARD (LEN) RODGERS

Who died on the 10th Dec aged 85.

Dad's funeral will

take place on the 22nd Dec at 3.30 at Harlow Crematorium.

Rest in peace.

From Elsie, Fred,

John, Brenda, Grace, Terry & grandchildren, great grandchildren & great great grandchildren

TONY TURNER

Sadly missed but forever in our hearts, love from your wife Linda, children Lee, Paula, Glenn and Grandchildren.

Funeral took place on Wednesday 17th December 2008 at the Roman Catholic church Epping.

Thanks to those who came to pay their respects.

Donations if desired made payable to G.O.S.H.C.C or ST CLARE HOSPICE

c/o Daniel Robinson & Sons, 146 High Street, Epping, Essex, CM16 4AG. Tel: 01992 560890.

JOE BRANT

A loving, caring family man but most of all a very dear friend who we will cherish always.

Your memory will live on forever.

Give Kate a kiss from us.

Sleep tight.

Love Ray, Scott, Alana, Kaleigh, James and Evie. xx

LINDA FAUNCH

Passed away peacefully on 18th December 2006.

A loving wife, mother & nanny.

Will always be sadly missed by husband Peter, daughters Tanya & Angie and families

HOLE DORIS

remembering your birthday December 21st.

Always thinking of you

love George & Joan

SARAH and BOB SAVILLE

Both in our thoughts always, more so at this special time, and on your birthday Mum, 13th December.

Love Joyce, Dave and Bill.

JOHN STEVENS

Merry Christmas my love.

Miss you more each day.

Love you for ever. Chris xxx

LEN RODGERS

Graddad! Great Granddad. You will be missed like crazy. No one will ever be able to fill the hole in our hearts that you have left. Rest in Peace. All our love Alison, Colin, Jessica and Craig XXXXXX

ALICE O'REILLY MUM

This will be the first Christmas without you.

You will be missed by all your family.

Your loving daughter, Kathy

JIM TUPPER

It's seven years since you passed away. I still love and miss you every day.

Yours always, Doreen.

xxx

Births

IT'S A GIRL

LOUISA LLOYD AND GRAEME TUCKER

Congratulations On the birth on your Beautiful Daughter 'Lola Rose' born on Friday 12th December 2008 at 2.15pm weighing 7lb 9oz. A little Sister for Alfie. Lots of love Mum, Kevin and Charles xxx

Marriages

Congratulations

19.12.08

EVANS : MAYLIN

Angela and Daniel

Deaths

Wishing you happiness for your Wedding day and for always.

Love Mum, Dad and Kenny xxx

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2. Fax 01992 526686

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In Memoriam

HUMPHRIES.

May, 24th December 1999. Dear Mum and Nan. Thinking of you today and always. Loved and missed so much especially at Christmastime. Love Margaret, Gerald and family.

ALFRED NELMES

Passed away December 19th 2002, aged 80 years. Six years have passed, gone but forgotten, thinking of you always.

All our love, Rene, John, Corinne, Christine, Mark, family and friends xxx

ALICE O'REILLY MUM

This will be the first Christmas without you.

You will be missed by all your family.

Your loving daughter, Kathy

Love you forever. Your heartbroken Mum

PYE.

Muriel, 1st Anniversary, 20th December 2007. Love you and miss you always. Carol xxx

JIM TUPPER

It's seven years since you passed away. I still love and miss you every day.

Yours always, Doreen.

xxx

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And 2 beautiful children later would like to say congratulations! Happy anniversary Mum & Dad

Love Sarah, Tom, Family and Friends

TO MY CARLY**40th BIRTHDAY****STEVEN MADDISON**

To a very special son. Look who is 40 today Friday 19th. Love Mum, Peter & Nan xx Have a good one

LEE ROBERTS

LOOK WHO'S 21!!
Have a great day!
Love Sarah, Mum, Chris, Jade and Dan.

Birthdays**Happy 1st Birthday**

to our granddaughter
LILY-RAE BAKER

Lots of love Nan and Granddad Budd
xxxx

LOOK WHO'S 10!**EWAN JOSEPH FELSTEAD**

Our wonderful grandson, Happy Birthday darling, December 21st. "up the gunners"

All our love Granny and Paddy.

FRANCES NORCOTT

Happy 50th Birthday
December 19th.

To a very SPECIAL person
Love ya loads Graham xxx

SARAH DAVEY

Happy 20th
Lots of love Mum, Graham and Tom

LILY-RAE BAKER

20.12.07

Our gorgeous girl, our little ray of sunshine.

Lots of love Mummy & Daddy & your two big bruv's Callum & Harrison xxxx

**PERRY FREEMAN****FRANCES NORCOTT**

20th December
Congratulations on your 50th Birthday,

Much love Pat and Fred xx

**CHLOE SHRUBB**

Happy birthday beautiful
Have a lovely day
With love and kisses, Mummy, Daddy and Reece xx.

LIN BISHOP

Best Wishes on your 60th Birthday and Congratulations on your Retirement

Love your family and friends

MARC HOGGER

Happy 13th Birthday,
20th December

BROOKE PUGH

Happy 1st Birthday to our special niece on 19th December

Lots of love, Auntie Emma & Uncle Matt xx

JOHN STEVEN SMITH

Happy 18th Birthday.

Keep on enjoying life as you always have.
Much love, Mum, Dad, Neil, Luke and Nanny Kath xx

JADE DANGERFIELD

Congratulations on your 21st birthday.
All our love Mum, Dad, Laura, Jaimee-Ellen and Steve.



SCOTT. Jessie. Congratulations on your 80th Birthday Mum. Love from your sons Trevor, Paul, Andy, Steve, wives & grandchildren. xxxx

SIAN KIRBY

Wishing you a Happy 10th Birthday darling, Monday 22nd.

Lots of love & kisses, Mum, Nan & Grandad xx

STEPHEN REGAN

Have a wonderful 18th birthday 18th December

All our love Mum & Dad. xx

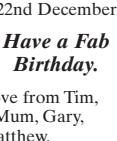
Christmas Greetings

BARRETT. (Norha). To the best Mum & Nan. Just to let you know how much we love you. From Jill & Emma. Happy Christmas. x

Marriages**STEPHEN REGAN**

Tomorrow, I will marry my best friend. The one I laugh with, live for, dream with and love. I can't wait.

Love you loads,
Ang
xxx

MAYLIN: EVANS**CLAIRE LEDAIN**

22nd December
Have a Fab Birthday.

Love from Tim, Mum, Gary, Matthew, Gemma, Isobel XXXXXX



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- 11 You've Passed
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SOPHIE WILSON
Happy Birthday
Special wishes to a very special young lady.
Lots of love Mum, Dad and Daisy



MUM
Happy Birthday Rose Lucas
Bet you thought we would all forget.
Enjoy your very special day.
Lots of love David, Sarah, Martin, John and all the family

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Whatever the occasion; make it even more special by placing a celebration notice in the Family Announcement page... and let everyone share in your happiness.

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POWER UP: Above, pictured during the dangers of electricity event are, rear, left to right, Nicole Taak, Amy Saunders, EDF's Georgina Clayton; front, left to right, Ellis Duffy and Luke Harvey (HKGZDX/05). Right, pupils on the climbing wall (s)

Lessons in safety . . . and fun

HARLOWBURY: Children got to grips with sport and learned the dangers of electricity.

Pupils tackled a climbing wall to win a sports course when sports development organisation Sports Xtra took outdoor equipment to the Watlington Road school. Participants were given two minutes to get as high as they could and were sponsored to take on the challenge.

Later, they learned about the dangers of

playing with electricity when EDF Energy Networks held a workshop in which they were shown a video about a boy who died after ignoring 'Danger of Death' signs. Pupils were also told how high voltage electricity can jump gaps and is conducted. EDF education advisor Clare Bacon said: "The interactive nature of the workshops ensures the children understand the potential consequences of playing with electricity."



MILWARDS: Forget *X Factor* – budding singers from the Parington Road school wowed audiences when they took to the stage of London's O2 arena as part of an 8,000-strong choir to break a world record.

Thirty children from Years 2-6 took part in the annual Young Voices showcase and, together with the hundreds of children from schools throughout the UK, they sang 12 songs in front of an audience of parents.

They then linked up via video to other areas in the country to sing with a total of one million children to break the record. It was the first year the school has taken part in the occasion.



(photo: HQVRKSHM/06)

Snappers putting town in the frame



BURNT MILL: Shoppers had a snap shot of the abundant photographic talents of Year 9 students when their work was showcased at a temporary art gallery in Market Square.

The pictures on display were taken during a cultural tourism project earlier this year. Pupils worked with photographer Elina Jokippi and architect Alistair Howe to produce a rough guide to Harlow through the eyes of a young person.

Last Wednesday's exhibition showcased some of the photographs from the project and launched the publication *You Are Here!*, in which they appear.

Assistant headteacher Paul Williams said: "Once again, our students show that Burnt Mill is at the heart of our local community!"

Prepare to keep well over Christmas and New Year

Help yourself to keep healthy

THERE is plenty you can do to help yourself in case you fall ill over the holiday period. It is a good idea to keep a well-stocked medicine cabinet at home to help cope with common illnesses, such as colds and flu, coughs, sore throats, indigestion, and headaches.

Paracetamol, aspirin or ibuprofen are the most common remedies for pain, fever and headaches. These remedies will also reduce a high temperature.

Children under 16 should not take aspirin. If you have children, remember to include appropriate medicines for them in your medicine cabinet.

If you are asthmatic, have ulcers or suffer from indigestion speak to a GP or pharmacist before taking aspirin or ibuprofen.

It is also worth asking your pharmacist for a rehydration mixture if you have sickness and diarrhoea. You should also stock up on an indigestion remedy, cough medicines, and decongestants for blocked noses. Always read the label and patient information before taking medicines and only take the recommended dose. You should always keep all medicines in their original container.

You should make sure all medicines are in a secure place, out of the reach of small children, and do not use them if they are out of date.

Do not take over-the-counter medicines for headache relief for more than the recommended few days without talking to a health professional.

You can ease a blocked nose, stuffiness and a sore throat by breathing in steam

from a hot shower, in the bath or from a basin. Make sure you get plenty of rest and avoid strenuous exercise.

If you do not feel like eating, try soup instead. Make sure you drink plenty of fluids.

Drinking water helps prevent bladder and bowel problems, and kidney stones. You should try to drink six to eight glasses (about two litres) of water a day. Drink more if you feel unwell are hungover or going on long journeys. Tap water is good for you – and cheaper than bottled water. Swap fizzy drinks for unsweetened fruit juice.

Pharmacists are medicines experts and can provide you with on-the-spot advice and treatment about many common health problems, like tummy troubles, allergies, aches and pains and viruses (like coughs and colds).

Keep a basic first aid kit in the home so you are ready to deal with minor emergencies.

Your first aid kit should include a thermometer, sterile eye pads, adhesive tape, tweezers, sharp scissors, disposable gloves, plasters, anti-septic liquid or cream, cotton wool, non-absorbent cotton wool and elastic bandages and dressings.

Catch It, Bin It, Kill It – don't give germs this Christmas

IF you have a cold make sure you cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.

Always dispose of the tissue after one use and clean your hands as soon as you can.

Alcohol hand gel, available from chemists and supermarkets, is a practical way to clean hands when soap and water is not available.

Talk to your local GP, nurse or pharmacist to find out more, or visit www.nhs.uk/flu

Flu jabs for at-risk patients

PEOPLE most at risk of developing serious complications from flu are urged to take advantage of a free flu jab.

Free flu jabs are for those in the at-risk groups which include adults and children who suffer from asthma, heart disease and diabetes, along with everyone aged 65 or over. Rory McCrea, NHS West Essex's medical director, said: "The flu vaccine doesn't contain any live virus, so it can't cause flu."



NHS
West Essex

"Those who got the jab last year will need to get a new jab this winter, as the virus changes every year and the vaccine needs to match the latest version of the virus.

The best way to avoid catching flu is to get immunised.

Practical tips to help avoid spreading germs:

- ✓ Always carry tissues
- ✓ Cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue
- ✓ Dispose of the tissue after one use
- ✓ Clean your hands as soon as you can

Do you know your NHS number?

EVERYONE registered with the NHS in England has their own unique NHS number.

It is printed on your medical card which was given to you when you register with a GP practice.

Each NHS number is made up of ten digits, shown like this: 450 557 7104 (this is an example number only).

If you have an old medical card, it will have an old-style NHS number consisting of letters and numbers. Having the old-style NHS number will not affect your care.

You should know your NHS number as it is useful to give to staff who are caring for you.

To get a new medical card and NHS number, you will need to contact NHS by West Essex 01279 827473 or 01279 827519. Your NHS number is different from your National Insurance (NI) number, which is used for tax and pensions.

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Happy Birthday

TODAY

BETHANY (member 589), of Pennymead, Harlow, is 8;
CHLOE (member 799), of Ayleys Field, Harlow, is 7.

FRIDAY

RYAN (member 471), of The Dashes, Harlow, is 11;
CAMERON (member 247), of Orchard Croft, Harlow, is 9.

SATURDAY

KIERAN (member 679), of Woodcroft, Harlow, is 10;
CRYSTAL (member 669), of Ayleys Field, Harlow, is 9;
ELLOUISE (member 351), of Rivermill, Harlow, is 8;
HAILIE-JADE (member 889), of Joyners Field, Harlow, is 6;
JACK (member 780), of Hull Grove, Harlow, is 3.

SUNDAY

JODIE (member 631), of Rushton Grove, Harlow, is 12 and retires from Rangers.
JACK (member 854), of Pear Tree Mead, Harlow, is 6;

CHARLIE (member 735), of Risdens, Harlow, is 3; **REGAN** (member 916), of Carters Mead, Harlow, is 2.

MONDAY

TAYLOR (member 484), of Longbanks, Harlow, is 12 and retires from Rangers.
TAYLOR (member 711), of Longbanks, Harlow, is 9.

Pedal to light up Christmas

NO doubt you've seen the colourful displays of Christmas lights in homes, schools and shops around Harlow.

But do you ever wonder how much it costs to keep the lights twinkling or the impact they might be having on the environment? Well, one school in Scotland has and as a result it is lighting up its Christmas tree using pedal power.

Pupils are taking it in turns to ride exercise bikes wired up to battery packs which power the entire school's seasonal decorations for 150 hours. It was the idea of Antony Berretti, who teaches children about maths, physics and the environment. He came up with the project after hearing about the increased demand for electricity at this time of year. "We hope this will allow



children to understand the nuts and bolts of energy production and its wider impact on the environment and what can be done to reduce it," he said. Headteacher Harold McCracken joked: "Cycling to generate the power will be a great way of preparing the children for all the food and treats that will be consumed over the Christmas holidays."

Fact File

NAME: Kieran (member 679)

DATE OF BIRTH: December 20, 1998

ADDRESS: Woodcroft, Harlow

SCHOOL: William Martin Junior

HOBBIES: Warhammer and martial arts

DISLIKES: Swimming

FAVOURITE FOOD: Pizza

LEAST FAVOURITE FOOD: Brussels sprouts

FAVOURITE BOOK: Books about sharks

FAVOURITE TV: Spongebob Squarepants

FAVOURITE MUSIC: Dexy's Midnight Runners

PETS: Pepe the cat, Granite the kitten, and Mizzie and Lizzie the guinea pigs

WANTS TO BE: A marine biologist

(photo: QLCTTXJM/01)



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sponsors Rangers

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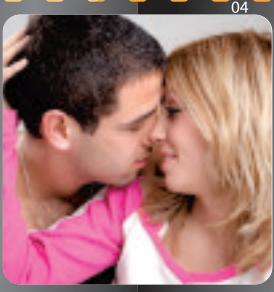
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ARE THEY
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www.ruthinking.co.uk

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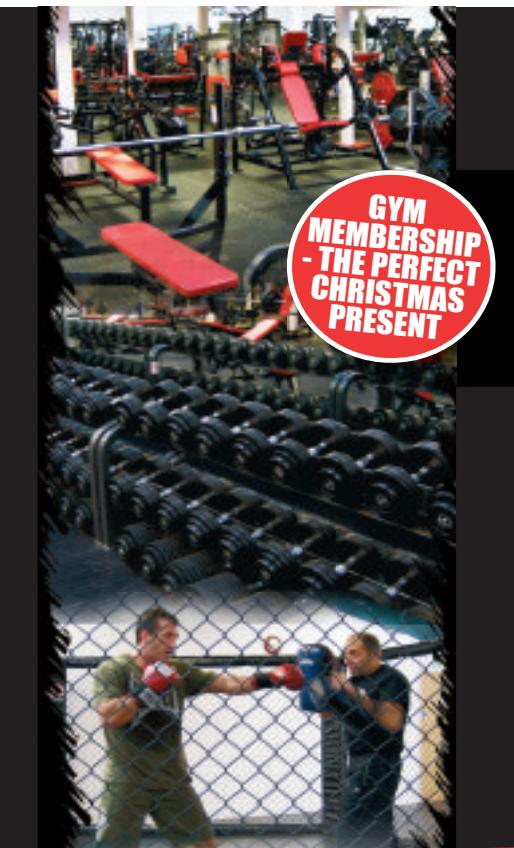
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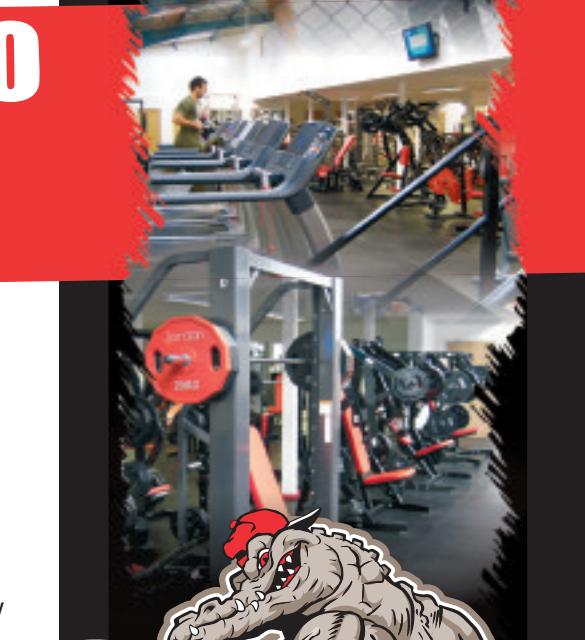
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the guide



SMALL HERO BIG HEART
The mouse with the key to the kingdom
cinema: page 24

Charming fantasy is a real beauty for all

REVIEW

BEAUTY & THE BEAST

Harlow Theatre Company, Victoria Hall Theatre, Harlow

JUST like its heroine, this delightful fantasy whisked its audience away from a world of financial woes to a place of enchantment and wonder.

Harlow Theatre Company's Christmas play has grown in stature over the years to the point where it stands shoulder to shoulder with professional productions and it's to the immense credit of all concerned that *Beauty & The Beast* must rate as the best yet.

Director Paul Johnson's free adaptation of the 17th century French fairytale is a richly textured and warmly humorous affair, complete with visual and thematic nods to Jean Cocteau's beloved 1946 movie *La Belle et la Bête* and Disney's 1991 version while remaining very much its own creature.

Fallen on hard times, wealthy merchant M'sieur Hulot (Steve Foster) and his daughters Belle and Nathalie live in a frugal cottage along with their housekeeper Marie. When he departs on a mission to rescue their finances and is waylaid by robbers, he's saved by Beast and given succour in the cursed animal's castle – until he plucks a single red rose for Belle and must exchange her freedom for his life.

Amy Jammers was spot-on as Belle, the dutiful daughter and caring companion who comes to love Beast for the heart she sees beating beneath his fierce exterior, projecting a gently sweet compassion that never felt anything but sincere and made her distress at his apparent fate all the more compelling.

She was perfectly matched by Kyle Jammers' Beast, the performer hidden under the marvellous creation of Brian Herring and his team yet still able to project a gruff pathos with the potential for fury never far away as he was torn between his aggressive, selfish nature and the desire to win Belle's heart, thereby breaking the curse and returning to human form.

But it wasn't all breathless romance and Johnson struck a deft balance by lightening the tone with



MAGICAL: Pictured left to right are Elliott Johnson (Tibot), Amy Jammers (Belle) and Molly Jenkins (Sophie) (photo: ZG3WJTCP/09). Below right, Kyle Jammers (Beast)

some most enjoyable comic characters. Dolleen Howlett was a particular treat, deliciously exuberant as the spoiled, demanding and excitable Nathalie, and playing very well against Tony Saxby as her hapless, pratfalling suitor Pierre.

Then there were Richard Parsley as Beast's foppish major domo Marcel and Sam Freeman as fellow servant Jacques, both transformed into animals by the same curse, who injected a lot of playful amusement into the scenes in the castle. Special mention must go to the effective and atmospheric set by Brian Miller, to Mike Penketh's lighting design which gave it such vivid life and to Joce Johnson's charming costumes, but in truth the entire cast and crew deserve praise for mounting such a thoroughly enjoyable and

engaging experience. My seven-year-old daughter accompanied me to this review and emphatically afterwards proclaimed it "five stars out of five, definitely!" – and there's certainly no arguing with that.

Paul Newman

● *BEAUTY And The Beast* continues tonight (Thursday) and tomorrow at 7.30pm, and on Sunday at 3pm. Tickets are £6-7.50 from (01279) 420062.



Playhouse's new-style pantomime gets under way



(photo: VWKG7LND/07)

HARLOW'S first professionally produced pantomime has begun its run at The Playhouse. In previous years, the theatre has built up a reputation for staging Britain's largest and most ambitious amateur community pantomimes. This year, the venue's biggest show of the year is instead being presented by New Playhouse Production and features a mix of professional performers and youngsters

from local dance groups. *Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs* stars former *EastEnders* actress and pop singer Michelle Gayle as Fairy Crystal and former Gladiator Mark Griffin, aka Trojan, as The Prince. Prior to opening night on Friday, director Simon Barry said the panto had been shaping up nicely. "Rehearsals have been going fantastically well," he enthused. "The cast have

gelled very well together and the younger members of the cast are really enjoying it. "We are really looking forward to bringing a bit of panto magic!"

Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs runs until January 11 and tickets priced £10-15 are available from (01279) 431945. Pictured, left, are the main cast of, left to right, Dan Styles, Filipa Geromino, Jamie Wilson, Rosanna Miles, Mark Griffin, Michelle Gayle and

arts diary

DRAMA What better way to get yourself in the mood for the festive break than with a nostalgic visit to a long-cherished Charles Dickens classic in the company of Ebeneezer Scrooge, Tiny Tim et al? The ever-creative Figur'd Shade presents dramatised readings by David Evans from *A Christmas Carol* at St John's Arts and Recreation Centre, off Market Street, Old Harlow, on Sunday at 5.30pm. Tickets are £12 (£10 concs) and seasonal refreshments will be served. Call (01279) 442447 for further details.

EXHIBITION *Designed In Harlow: The Work Of Sir Frederick Gibberd's Harlow Office, 1956-1983* continues at the Gibberd Gallery, in the Civic Centre, until January 24. The free exhibition showcases a wide variety of the work of the town's masterplanner, in Harlow and further afield.

EXHIBITION Artist Mike Ricketts' free revival of his study of Harlow, *Reverse Consultation (Old New Town)*, continues at Harlow Temple of Utopias, in Market Square, Harlow, until Monday.

CINEMA The Mikrokino ARC Cinema Club begins the new year with a screening of Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck's 2006 film *The Lives Of Others* on January 9 at 8pm at St John's ARC, in Old Harlow. The story is set in 1984 and concerns a secret police agent in East Berlin who carries out surveillance on a writer and his lover and who becomes increasingly obsessed by their lives. Membership for the remaining five films in the club's current season is £20. Call (01279) 442447 or email a.organ@ntlworld.com for details.

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Mighty mouse proves he is no scaredy cat

THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX
certificate U, running time 1h33m

SET in a magical kingdom overcome by grief, *The Tale Of Despereaux* is almost as gloomy and glum as its characters, never matching the vibrancy or energy of the computer animation as one plucky mouse risks everything to save a friend from being eaten alive by rats.

Sigourney Weaver's narration provides the flimsy glue between scenes, welcoming us to the far off realm of Dor where "Christmas was nothing compared to soup day."

On the first Sunday of every spring, royal chef Andre (voiced by Kevin Kline) and his loyal assistant Boldo unveil the year's royal concoction. But darkness descends after an inquisitive rat called Roscuro (Dustin Hoffman) falls into the soup, causing the Queen to collapse headfirst into her bowl of piping hot broth and die.

Consumed by grief, the King decrees that the selling, making and eating of soup are all outlawed and vermin are banished from Dor.

One tiny creature, a mouse called Despereaux Tilling (Matthew Broderick), dares to strike up a tender friendship with the King's daughter, Princess Pea. When the rest of Mouseworld discovers his reckless actions, Despereaux is cast out into violent Ratworld where he meets Roscuro and persuades the rat to seek forgiveness from the princess.

Unfortunately, Pea reacts badly and Roscuro plots revenge with the help of servant girl Miggery Sow who harbours an impossible dream to become a princess. Together they plot to kidnap Pea and spirit her away to Ratworld where the sinister Botticelli presides over this subterranean lair of decay.

Thus, Despereaux races against time to rescue Pea from her hellish predicament. *The Tale Of Despereaux* is all sweetness but no light, not once stirring the soul as the tiny hero proves that size doesn't matter because actions speak louder than words.

sound check with Chris Moss

LIKE some triumvirate of shining, benevolent high priests of funk-blues, the remarkably talented James Bennett and his powerhouse rhythm section of Messrs Blowers and Caine are perhaps as close as this generation will ever get to the shape-shifting psychedelic rock of the summer of love's bitter-sweet swansong.

Far from the soulless blues-by-numbers technical workouts of lesser peers, JB3's sound is defined instead by a sheer blood, sweat and tears dedication to their craft, respecting but not limiting themselves to the constraints of tradition. Their hearts may bleed blues but their attitude is pure jazz experimental.

Bennett howls and hollers like a man possessed, his guitar spitting fire and cosmic riffs worthy of induction into

BAND: JB3
FROM: Harlow
WHO THEY?: James Bennett (guitar/vocals/keys/pulling shapes), Andy Blowers (bass), Charlie Caine (drums)
SOUNDS LIKE: Jimi Hendrix, George Clinton and John Mayall walk into a bar...
WEBSITE: www.myspace.com/particlesofme



the Electric Sky Church. Blowers plays like the eight-fingered lovechild of Jack Bruce and Bootsy Collins while Caine is frankly as mad as a bag of bendy hammers. And even if you think blues is for

dads and geography teachers, just go and see this lot live. They've got enough soul, passion, blood and fire to woo even the most dedicated music snobs and fickle fashionistas among us.

also new this week

TWILIGHT
certificate 12A, running time 2h2m

STEPHENIE Meyer's best-selling Twilight novels, a series of teen fantasies in which vampires and mortals live side by side, have become one of the biggest publishing phenomena since Harry Potter.

So it comes as a pleasant surprise that despite many flaws including a stilted dialogue and a generous grating of cheesiness, this film adaptation is an entertaining and sprightly romantic yarn.

The story centres on teenage misfit Bella Swan (Kristen Stewart), who moves to Washington to live with her cop father. As the mysterious new girl at school, Bella soon makes friends but the only person she wants to meet is alluring outsider Edward Cullen (Robert Pattinson, pictured right).

In the parking lot one day, Bella is almost crushed to death in a freak traffic accident, only to be saved in the nick of time by Edward who eventually reveals that he is a vampire. But unlike many of his kind, he does not drink human blood.

When bloodthirsty predators Laurent, James and



Victoria begin to feed on the unsuspecting locals, the Cullens close ranks to protect Bella from her immortal pursuers.

Special effects are convincing without ever being dazzling while Stewart and Pattinson stare at one another with such intensity it's hard not to be swept up in their characters' ill-fated romance.

gig guide

THURSDAY
THE CHEQUERS, Market Street, Old Harlow - Cocktail

FRIDAY
THE HERALD, Broadley Road, Harlow - Freebird
THE POPLAR KITTEN, Tawneys Road, Harlow - Dragon
THE PURPLE EMPEROR, Momples Road, Harlow - Oasis

QUATTROZ, The Rows, Harlow - Orgazmatron + Avondale 45 + Gazzzy Roxx
THE SQUARE, Fourth Avenue, Harlow - Morning Parade +

Messengers + The Waves

SATURDAY
THE PURPLE EMPEROR, Momples Road, Harlow - Repertoire Dogs

THE SHARK, Hobtoe Road, Harlow - Cupid Stunts;

THE SQUARE, Fourth Avenue, Harlow - The Subways + Popdad

THE WHITE ADMIRAL, Ward Hatch, Harlow - Stacey Lee

SUNDAY
THE SQUARE, Fourth Avenue, Harlow - The Subways + Rotating Leslie

hear this: a

TONIGHT

It's the Christmas Pressure Drop club night with DJs playing the best music from the worlds of reggae, ska, funk and soul. Doors open at 8pm and admission is £3.

FRIDAY

Headlining Strange Place Club Live's pre-Christmas bash are Morning Parade, who have built up a formidable reputation for pulling in the crowds at their local performances. They may have been enjoying a break from their tumultuous touring schedule of late as they

still showing

THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL:

A spacecraft arrives on Earth bringing with it Klaatu (Keanu Reeves), a human-like messenger from another world who has been sent to observe mankind and warn of impending doom and the dire consequences should he be held in custody. As suspicion and paranoia run rampant, the US military eventually uses force against Klaatu, initiating a countdown to the complete destruction of Earth at the hands of a technologically advanced alien race.

INKHEART:

Fantastical family adventure about the Silvertongues who possess the power to bring books to life. But for every fictional character allowed to leap across the divide, a real person must take their place. Doting father Mo Folchart (Brendan Fraser) has kept a terrible secret from his daughter Meggie (Eliza Bennett) since she was three years old; he is a Silvertongue and inadvertently sent his beloved wife Teresa (Sienna Guillory) into the pages of a book called Inkheart. When Mo stumbles upon an old copy of the book, he finally believes he could be reunited with Teresa, only for the past to catch up with him.

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA:

Colourful computer animated sequel in which a menagerie of misfits are stranded in the wild where they discover the courage to follow their hearts and to reclaim a birthright as king of the jungle.

TRANSPORTER 3: Jason Statham returns as Frank Martin in Olivier high-octane action movie where some scenes verge on the ridiculous. This time Frank is sent on a job to pick up Valentine (Natalya Rudakova), the kidnapped daughter of Leonid Vasilev (Jeroen Krabbe), head of the Ukraine's powerful Environmental Protection Agency. However, plans go awry when sparks of passion fly between Frank and Valentine.

FOUR CHRISTMASES: Happily unmarried San Francisco couple Brad (Vince Vaughn) and Kate (Reese Witherspoon) have been together for years but have no plans to walk down the aisle. Every December 25 they make outlandish, charity work-related excuses to their loved ones so they can jet off to sunnier climes to soak up the sun, but when the fog sets in and they are unable to fly the bickering duo are forced to spend the holiday season with their extended families.

films for kids

ENCHANTED. Classic Disney animation meets contemporary urban chaos when a frightened princess is banished from her magical animated homeland to modern-day New York City.

SANTA CLAUS 3: Santa, is faced with a double duty: keeping his new family happy while stopping Jack Frost from taking over Christmas.

preview

YES MAN. Jim Carrey stars as Carl Allen, a man who decides to spice up his life by saying yes to everything in his life that he would normally say no to.

a preview of what's on at the square

write new material but they never fail to deliver exceptionally-crafted, moving songs that could have only ever have been written by a genuinely tight outfit who've been working solidly together for some time. Supporting them are uber-trendy London trio Messengers and minimalist band The Waves. Tickets are £6 in advance.

SATURDAY/ SUNDAY

Having completed a massive UK tour which included shows at both

the Reading and Leeds festivals, in support of their latest album *All Or Nothing*, The Subways (pictured right) return to their favourite venue for a weekend double header. Saturday's gig, with support from PopDad (Murray Torkildson from The Sweeney and Dave Walsh from The Worlondfire), is already sold out but as the Star went to press there were still a few tickets available for Sunday's show which will also feature Rotating Leslie. Ticket price is £10 in advance and doors open at 8pm.



Paul Newman reviews a selection of the latest releases on DVD

The odd get even more fantastic

HELLBOY II: THE GOLDEN ARMY

(Universal Pictures, 12, retail & rental)

There can't seriously be any doubt that the forthcoming movie of *The Hobbit* is in anything but the safest of hands with Guillermo del Toro at the helm after establishing himself so emphatically as modern cinema's premier fantasist. His first adaptation of Mike Mignola's *Hellboy* set the bar pretty high but *Hellboy II: The Golden Army* straps a gallon of nitro to it and simply blows it through the roof.

This is everything fans wanted, even more than they dared hope for, and showcases a film-maker at the absolute top of his game to date.

Superficially more playful than the first film (and that's probably a lot to do with the absence of undead Nazis this time around), this is also a comic book movie that takes the time and trouble to populate its fantastical world with three-dimensional, credible characters who show vulnerability, stupidity and passion.

Oh, and the look of it, the amount of attention paid to the tiniest little details of production design, is just mind-blowing.

The story picks up with Hellboy (Ron Perlman) and pyrotechnician Liz (Selma Blair) grappling with all the usual stresses of a relationship ("I'd give my life for her ... but she also expects me to do the dishes!") until the alarm sends them out with gillman Abe Sapien (Doug Jones) and the rest of the Bureau for Paranormal Research and Defence team to a lethal outbreak of tooth fairies.

Fighting off the swarming critters and accidentally-on-purpose outing himself to the media, Hellboy picks up on the scent of a far bigger problem – disgusted with mankind for endlessly breaking a centuries-old truce, elf lord Nuada (Luke Goss) has determined to unleash the mythical Golden Army, 4,900 unstoppable goblin-crafted giant fighting machines designed to hammer humanity into oblivion.

It's fascinating to see the stone-fisted demon torn with such a moral dilemma; fighting evil Nazis is one thing, but the magical folk have a legitimate complaint and are facing extermination because of Man's reckless destruction of the world. So which side should he really be on?

He's not the only one pulled in two directions, as Abe experiences his first taste of love, for Nuada's twin sister Nuala (Anna Walton).

Strongly favouring practical effects and costumes over virtual reality, del Toro crafts a world that feels entirely plausible and gives his characters plenty of room amid the frantic action to breathe, get maudlin drunk, joke around and emot.

The opening flashback to Hellboy's childhood with his adoptive father Professor Bruttenholm (John Hurt) relating the myth of the Golden Army as a bedtime story is a delight, as is the introduction of new character Johann Krauss (a psychic medium who exists only as a smoky ectoplasm in a diving suit and is voiced with a wonderfully prissy German accent by Family Guy creator Seth MacFarlane), a big set-piece battle against a towering forest elemental on the streets of New York and an encounter with the spectral Angel of Death.

The real centrepiece show-stopper is the BPRD's visit to an underground troll market, a scene so crammed with detail and exotic creatures that it makes Star



War's cantina look like a quiet Sunday afternoon in the saloon bar of The Lamb And Flag. Del Toro really lets his wild imagination slip the leash here and the astonishing result is guaranteed to have you hitting the rewind button over and again.

It's almost a cliché for an entertainment to promise that 'you'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll cheer' – but *Hellboy II: The Golden Army* delivers all three in spades.

Extra features include a hugely entertaining commentary, the exhaustive and fascinating making-of documentary *Hellboy: In Service Of The Demon*, a tour of the troll market with del Toro and an animated epilogue showing the fate of a key villain from the first movie (and hopefully leading into the third).

Star rating: ★★★★

THE GIRL WHO LEAPT THROUGH TIME

(Manga Entertainment, PG, retail)

Motoko's not your typical Japanese schoolgirl – a bit of a tomboy and rather accident-prone, she prefers the rough-and-tumble company of boys and playing baseball.

But one day she literally stumbles on an amazing ability to leap backwards through time, allowing her to change small details and then hop back to reap the benefits.

Now she can get up as late for school as she wishes and still be the first student in class, not to mention swotting up for exams she's already done badly in. But it's not long before she comes to realise that even the smallest changes can have major repercussions

for those around her, and that even her new-found talent can't fix some problems.

Directed by Studio Ghibli veteran Mamoru Hosoda, *The Girl Who Leapt Through Time* is a beautiful-looking anime with lots of humour and plenty to say about the importance of taking each day one moment at a time – not to mention learning to accept both the good and the bad that life throws one's way with equanimity.

The animation is superb throughout, and there's enough wit and intelligence to keep both adults and older children hooked.

Extras include a commentary and trailers for other titles.

Star rating: ★★★

THE WIRE: THE COMPLETE SERIES

(HBO Video, 18, retail)

This lavish 24-disc box set comprises all 60 episodes of the critically acclaimed cop drama revolving around the hard-fought battle between the police and criminals on the streets of Baltimore.

Lieutenant Cedric Daniels (Lane Riddick), Detective Jimmy McNulty (Dominic West) and Detective Shakima Greggs (Sonja Sohn) wage war on drug barons Stringer Bell (Idris Elba) and Avon Barksdale (Wood Harris), but the greatest conflict may be with councilman Thomas Carmichael (Aiden Gillen), who is plotting to oust the mayor.

Double agents within both camps create havoc as good people perish in pursuit of justice, building to a dramatic finale. Compulsive viewing.

Star rating: ★★★★

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THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX (U)

(11:55 Mon-Fri), 13:15, 15:30, 17:45,

INKHEART (PG)

(11:55 Mon-Fri), 14:15, (16:20 Not Sat & Sun), (19:30 Not Weds)

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA

(11:30 Not Fri), 13:30, 15:45, 18:00, (20:10 Not Weds)

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- Tuesday 30th December 9am-5.15pm
- New Years Eve 9am-3pm
- New Years Day CLOSED
- Friday 2nd January 9am-5.15pm

Observer MERCURY Star



Aries Mar 21-Apr 20 **Libra** Sept 24-Oct 23
 Neptune, which has had such a testing influence the last Christmases you've ever part of the year, comes experienced, and before up trumps this week you scoff, don't be too forging fine links to both quick to dismiss the Mars and Venus. This potential for this magic planet can be about Libra. However, this does dreams, but if yours are require you to be less to be met, finding a new logical and more in touch job, or feeling secure in with your own feelings, the one you have, will be. Perhaps you cover your perfect Christmas tree needs under a gift. Yet, this can also be a veneer of humour and special time romantically silky charm. Will the true Aries. Call me for your emerge? Call for your love scope in full...

Taurus April 21-May 21 **Scorpio** Oct 24-Nov 22
 Right up to the wire of Christmas itself. Your perfect Christmas sees there can be a lot of you dreaming of discussions about your snuggling up in front of worldy situation. These that proverbial roaring may include your parents, fire, or if you're lucky, or if you have older a real one. Feeling offspring, it can be you settled and peaceful will supporting them. You mean more than high might also fancy time jinx. Will this be how it away from your usual unfolds? Maybe, but just haunts. This is because as easily you can find new places can seem to yourself inviting take on much greater neighbours in or being appeal than for many a given a last minute year. Call now for more warmed mulled wine. Call me now for more...

Gemini May 22-Jun 21 **Sagittarius** Nov 23-Dec 21
 Your imagination can be fantastic this Christmas, so if you find yourself racking your brains about buying a late gift, have faith, you'll probably come up with a super idea that'll hit the jackpot. If you're solo, a magical moment can be make merry. Your acted out under the willpower can be rock mistletoe, but even if this bottom, so all your best doesn't come to anything intentions to stick to a diet lasting, you're likely to could crumble as you savor the moment! Call nibble on those mince pie now for your love pies! Call me now for more news and advice...

Cancer Jun 22-Jul 23 **Capricorn** Dec 22-Jan 20
 In the nick of time for Christmas, so you can see you let an powers into your sector of relating. This will skin. Chances are, you give you that extra won't be the only one, diplomacy to tune into the but try to count on ten needs of your hosts or because as the Sun visitors. Yet try not to get passes into your sign on frazzled about the Monday, frayed nerves arrangements, this is the can make way for a more time to put the emphasis comfortable mindset, on people. Let the small However, your system is details look after going to be particularly themselves. It'll be less sensitive this year. Be stressful and more aware of this before you enjoyable! Call me for over-imbi. Call me for your in-depth forecast...

Leo Jul 24-Aug 23 **Aquarius** Jan 21-Feb 19
 Being peaceful can be the one who makes the thoughtful gestures. This those that really matter to you, this will prove favourite charity by comforting and everyone turning out for carol can seem in the mood to singing on a freezing cold let pety differences be, night, to inviting wails and Usually, you take on quite strays around for a bit of the burden for Christmas lunch. But pleasing others, but if folk don't be too sacrificing pitch in to help you, rather Aquarius, and if you need than feeling this is to find a few moments of invading your space, you complete peace and can welcome it. Call your quiet, do so with a clear Leo prediction line for conscience. Call your more...

Virgo Aug 24-Sep 23 **Pisces** Feb 20-Mar 20
 You always seem to burst into form just in time for Yule tide, but this year, your ruler Mercury groups at this time of year and Pluto have been giving you but you can be the one who a heart start. So, when it comes to leading the feast because of your ability celebrations, you can be up to tease yourself. Yet don't be too self-sacrificing, Romantically, a very special sacrifice... if you have card or gift can be given to people visiting, remember you can be given by a to delegate if need be Virgo secret trials may also occur. This is the season of giving, but if so, do be sure of what so give to yourself too. Call your getting into. Call now for more astral advice...

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£599,950 WRIGHTS GREEN. A grade II listed 4 bedroom three storey house in large grounds of 2/3rds of acre gardens, garage and plenty of parking with gated entrance. Many original features including heavy timbers, fireplaces, 3 ground floor reception rooms, large kitchen, en suite to master bedroom, first floor bathroom. Sole Agents.



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- Double Glazed Windows
- Gas Central Heating

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5% DEPOSIT PAID

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- Mid Terrace Property
- Popular Bush Fair Location
- Well Presented Kitchen
- & Bathroom
- Double Glazed Windows
- Chain Free
- Viewing Recommended

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- Mid Terrace Bungalow
- Allocated Parking
- Double Glazing
- Sought After Location
- Gas Central Heating

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Pennymead

5% DEPOSIT PAID

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- Mid Terrace Property
- Two Double Size Bedrooms
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- Ideal First Time Purchase
- Viewing Highly Recommended

£150,000

Abbotsweld

- Two Bedroom Terraced House
- Gas Central Heating Via Rads
- Study/Storage
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- Viewing Recommended

£135,000

Jerounds

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- Double Glazed Windows
- Gas Central Heating
- Modernisation Required
- Chain Free

£140,000

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- Allocated Parking Space
- Chain Free

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Tuesday 30/12/08
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- Unover-looked Rear Garden
- Conservatory
- Allocated Parking for 2 Cars
- Double Glazed Windows
- Viewing Recommended

£183,000

Paddock Mead

- Four Bedrooms
- Link Detached Family Home
- Ground Floor Extension to Rear
- Very Good Decorative Order
- Gas Central Heating Via Rad
- Drive & Garage
- Viewing Recommended

£299,950

Willowfield

- Four Bedroom Detached House
- Drive & Garage
- Separate Lounge, Dining Room & Drawing Room
- Conservatory
- Downstairs Bedroom 4
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazed Windows
- Chain Free

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Foldcroft, two bedroom end of terrace house, furnished	£750
Milwards, three bedroom house, part furnished	£765
Fullers Mead, three bedroom house, part furnished	£800
Abbotsweld, three bedroom house, unfurnished	£825
Sycamore Field, three bedroom house, unfurnished	£825
Abbotsweld, three bedroom house, furnished	£825
Northbrooks, three bedroom house, furnished	£850
Milwards, four bedroom house, unfurnished	£850
Foldcroft, three bedroom mid terrace house, furnished	£850
Barn Mead, three bedroom house, part furnished	£900
Longbanks, four bedroom house, furnished	£975
Gladwin Way, three bedroom house, part furnished	£995
Perry Springs, four bedroom house, furnished	£1,000
Foster Street, three/four end of terrace period property, unfurnished	£1,500

NEW HALL**NEW HALL** £1,300

This four bedroom link detached property , benfits from en suite drive and carport. Spread over three levels this house is in emaculate condition throughout.

CHALLINOR £850

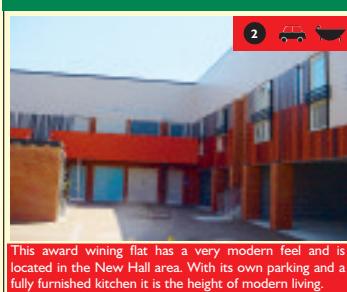
Three bedroom house located in Church Langley .Property has a en bloc garage and drive with a fully furnished kitchen. Ready to move into in the new year.

SYCAMORE FIELD £825

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RUSHTON GROVE £1,000

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ALEXANDRA ROAD £785

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FOLDCROFT £750

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DADS WOOD £675

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BROCKLES MEAD £650

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BARLEY CROFT £650

This good size two bedroom flat in the Staple Tye area is part furnished with kitchen goods and balcony. Available Now.

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ABBEYDALE CLOSE £565

One bedroom flat in Church Langley with private parking and a fully furnished kitchen. Call today for a viewing.

BRENTHALL TOWERS £490

One bedroom flat in Potter Street , with easy access to M11. Property has white goods in kitchen.And is ready for February 09.

KEY: **2 BEDROOMS** **FURNISHED** **BALCONY/TERRACE** **GARDEN** **PARKING** **BATHROOMS**

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<i>Friday 26th December 2008</i>	<i>CLOSED</i>
<i>Saturday 27th December 2008</i>	<i>CLOSED</i>
<i>Sunday 28th December 2008</i>	<i>CLOSED</i>
<i>Monday 29th December 2008</i>	<i>10:00am to 4:00 pm</i>
<i>Tuesday 30th December 2008</i>	<i>10:00am to 4:00pm</i>
<i>Wednesday 31st December 2008</i>	<i>9:00am to 1:30pm</i>
<i>Thursday 1st January 2009</i>	<i>CLOSED</i>
<i>Friday 2nd January 2009</i>	<i>9:00am to 6:00pm</i>



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Milwards. Two bedroom ground floor flat	OIEO £90,000 Little Grove Field. Two bedroom first floor flat	OIEO £120,000 Great Brays. Four bedroom end of terrace house	£169,950
Nicholls Field. One bedroom first floor flat	£94,995 Little Cattins. Two bedroom top floor flat	£122,500 Perry Spring, Potter Street. Three bedroom terraced house	£169,995
Seymours. One bedroom first floor flat	OIEO £100,000 Brockles Mead. Four bedroom terrace house	£140,000 Holland Way, New Hall Farm. One bedroom Apartment	£170,000
Dunstalls. One Bedroom top floor flat	£104,995 Taylifers. Three bedroom terrace house	£140,000 Ridgeways, Church Langley. Two bed semi detached house	£213,500
The Hides. One bedroom first floor flat	£105,000 The Chantry. Three bedroom terrace house	£144,950 Silvesters. Three/Four bedroom semi detached house	£249,995
Longbanks. Two bedroom terraced house	£114,950 Barn Mead. Three bedroom end of terrace house	£145,000 Felmongers. Four/Five bedroom semi detached house	£279,500
Willowfield. Two bedroom third floor flat	£115,000 Perry Spring, Potter Street. Three bed staggered terrace house	£155,000 Fir Park. Three bedroom link detached house	£315,000
Kingsland. Two bedroom first floor flat	£115,000 Chelsea Gardens, Church Langley. Two bed g/floor apartment	£157,500 St Johns Avenue, Old Harlow. Four bedroom detached house	£450,000
Quarry Springs. Two bedroom split level ground floor maisonette	£115,000 Sycamore Field. Three bedroom staggered terrace house		

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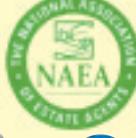


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£530pcm SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Waterside Place). One bedroom, unfurnished, first floor apartment in Grade II listed building. Two mins walk from Sawbridgeworth train station. The property also benefits from ample parking and large communal garden. Available now.



£600pcm SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Lawrence Moorings). Larger than average, one bedroom, furnished apartment. Large bedroom with fitted wardrobes, good size lounge with views over communal gardens and the river, fitted kitchen and bathroom. Allocated parking.



£695pcm BISHOP'S STORTFORD (Regency Way). Brand new, two bedroom, unfurnished mews style property. Comprising good size lounge, brand new fitted kitchen, luxury bathroom, two bedrooms and loft space. Available now.



£795pcm NEWHALL (Allis Mews). Modern ground floor two bedroom apartment in the award winning Newhall development. Comprising large, open lounge with full height windows on dual aspect, modern kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. Viewing recommended. Available now.



£795pcm SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Willow Court). Brand new, unfurnished, two bedroom apartment. The property benefits from a new fitted kitchen, luxury bathroom, two double bedrooms with en suite to master and allocated parking. Camera phone entry system. Immaculately presented, viewing recommended. Available now.



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Monday 22nd December - 9am - 4pm

Tuesday 30th December - Open 10am - 1pm

Tuesday 23rd December - Closed

New Year's Eve - Closed

Wednesday 24th December - Closed

New Year's Day - Closed

Christmas Day - Closed

Friday 2nd January - 9am - 5.30pm

Boxing Day - Closed

Saturday 3rd January - 9am - 1pm

Saturday 27th December - Open 10am - 1pm

Sunday 4th January - Closed

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£1,000pcm SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Three Mile Pond). Unfurnished, detached, three bedroom unconverted, a beautiful, quieted location. This period cottage enjoys two good size reception rooms, kitchen, family bathroom with whirlpool bath, large master bedroom, two further bedrooms, stunning rear garden, double garage and parking. Available now.



£1,250pcm HATFIELD HEATH (Stortford Road). Attractive Edwardian villa. Comprising sitting room, large living room, impressive kitchen/breakfast room, utility room and downstairs w.c. Also benefiting from three good sized bedrooms and a luxury family bath/shower room. Period features as well as a landscaped rear garden and parking. Available early January.



£1,350pcm BISHOPS STORTFORD (Elm Road). Brand new, unfurnished, four bedroom town house. The property benefits from driveway parking, large lounge with patio doors leading to landscaped rear garden, brand new fitted kitchen, four double bedrooms, en suite, luxury family bathroom. Available now.



£1,650pcm STEBBING (Church Lane). Detached, unfurnished, four bedroom family home. Benefiting from large lounge, large fitted kitchen, separate dining room, downstairs bathroom, four good size bedrooms with en suite to master and family bathroom. A gardener is included when renting this property. Double garage and parking for up to 5 cars. Available now.



£1,750pcm ST MICHAEL'S MEAD (Stockman Field). Large five bedroom part furnished detached house in immaculate condition throughout. Property benefits from single garage and driveway parking for up to three cars. Internal viewing highly recommended.



£3,000pcm HARLOW (Threshers Bush). Beautifully maintained, detached, four bedroom country farmhouse set in its own grounds in an idyllic, tranquil location. The property enjoys spacious accommodation including three large reception rooms, separate dining room, fitted kitchen, utility, study, four bedrooms and family bathroom. Available now.



£3,500pcm STEBBING (Nr Gt Dunmow). A superb grade II listed heavily timbered 7 bedroom 16th century country home. Comprising reception hall, drawing room, sitting room/library, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, store room. Double garage, 10.5 acres, meat, lake, heated indoor swimming pool, granary/playroom, paddock and all weather tennis court. Viewing highly recommended. Available now.

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CHURCH LANGLEY

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SATURDAY 27TH DEC 08	CLOSED
SUNDAY 28TH DEC 08	CLOSED
MONDAY 29TH DEC 08	10AM - 2PM
TUESDAY 30TH DEC 08	10AM - 2PM
NEW YEARS EVE - 31ST DEC 08	10AM - 2PM
NEW YEARS DAY - 1ST JAN 09	CLOSED
FRIDAY 2ND JAN 09	10AM - 2PM
SATURDAY 3RD JAN 09	10AM - 2PM
SUNDAY 4TH JAN 09	CLOSED
MONDAY 5TH JAN 09	OPEN AS USUAL



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Dadswood.	Two Bedroom, Flat, Partly Furnished	£650pcm
Willowfield.	Two Bedroom, Flat, Partly Furnished	£650pcm
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River Mill.	Two Bedroom, Maisonette, Fully Furnished	£750pcm
Spruce Hill.	Three Bedroom, House, Unfurnished	£825pcm
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Foldcroft.	Three Bedroom, House, Partly furnished	£850pcm
Park Hill.	Three Bedroom, House, Partly Furnished	£875pcm
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Halling Hill.	Three Bedroom, House, Partly Furnished	£925pcm
Bury Road.	Four Bedroom, House, Unfurnished	£950pcm
Cobbins Way, Old Harlow.	Three Bedroom, House, Fully Furnished	£950pcm
Coalport Close.	Three Bedroom, House, Partly Furnished	£1,100pcm
Kings Mead.	Three Bedroom, Bungalow, Unfurnished	£1,200pcm
Tempest Meads.	Four Bedroom, House, Partly Furnished	£1,650pcm
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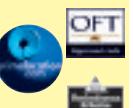
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(O2)	FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC	61k, silver, PAS, ABS, alloys, e/w/m	£2,995
(O2)	CLIO 1.2 16v DYNAMIQUE	62k, red, PAS, e/w/m, CD, sunroof	£2,995
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(O3)	MONDEO 2.0 GEAR X AUTO	PAS, blk leather, e/w/m, a/c, alloys	£2,995
(W)	MEGANE CABRIOLET	2 dr, 69k, met silver, PAS, e/m/w	£2,795
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(S2)	PEUGEOT 106 1.1 INDEPENDENCE	34k, blk, PAS, CD, 2 tone interior	£2,495
(S2)	ROVER 25 1.4 SPIRIT S	28k, met blue, PAS, e/w/m, CD, a/c, alloys	£2,495
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(O3)	ROVER 25 2.0 DI L	45k, green, PAS, e/w/m, a/c	£1,995
(S1)	VECTRA 2.2 CD AUTO	5 dr, 72k, met red, PAS, e/w/m, a/c	£1,695

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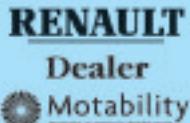
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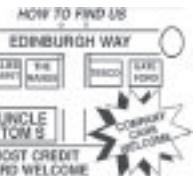
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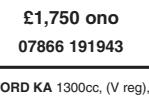
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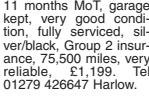
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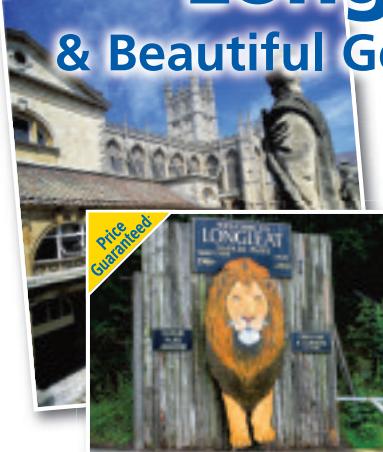
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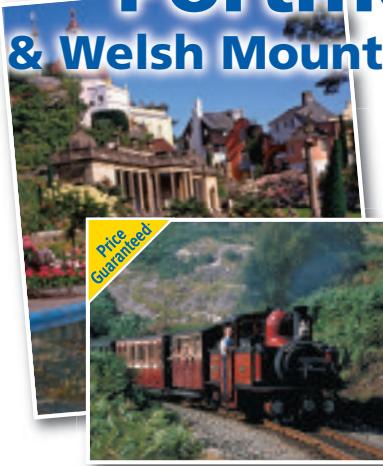
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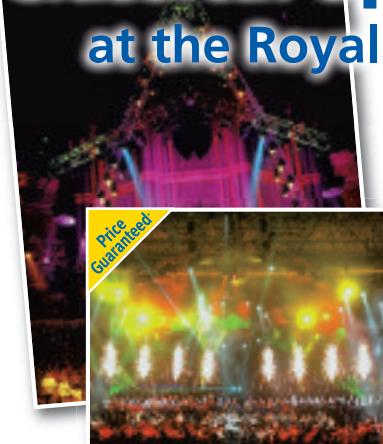
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An application pack can be obtained from Chiara Guyver on 01920 824224, or email hr@stedmundscollege.org

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Ex-Ram Boynton in Varsity defeat

TREVOR Boynton adopted a philosophical outlook after his Cambridge University team lost 33-29 to Oxford in the annual Varsity match, writes DAVID RIMMER.

The former Harlow Rugby Club first teamer gained his third appearance for the Light Blues last Thursday and played the first 50 minutes at Twickenham.

Cambridge staged a brave fightback after trailing by a big margin at one stage. Boynton, who is studying a management course following a two-year Land Economy qualification, was in the successful Cambridge teams of 2006 and 2007. "If only we could have just changed one minute of the game but that is the way rugby goes. We gave away soft tries," he told **Star Sport**.

"I was more disappointed for the guys who are on one-year courses and will not get another opportunity to set the record straight."

He added: "Our guys showed good character and the guys who came off the bench made a big impact. It was a great day."

The 31-year-old, who played for the Rams in the 1999-2000 season, had a solid game tidying up awkward situations for the Light Blues and was a menace going forward.

Boynton plans to hang up his boots shortly and added: "It has been a great experience [playing Varsity rugby] and it was good to end up winning two out of three."

Junior teams start league campaigns

THE U-14 and U-17 Harlow Hawks teams have launched their JCVL (Junior Central Venue Basketball League) campaigns.

The U-14s won all three of their games on Sunday with some excellent basketball being played and every player contributing to a fantastic start.

The U-17s won two of their three games with their only loss coming against a very talented Ware Leopards team in what was a very physical game.

Coach Shab Niaz said: "Overall all the Hawks junior teams have made a good start to the JCVL season but as was proved last year, each team improves over the course of the season as their players develop and some twists do occur so Hawks will have to focus on each game as it comes to build on the first of five monthly events."

Paralympics star wins 2012 grant

ANNE Wafula-Strike is to be given a financial boost to her training preparations for the London 2012 Paralympics.

The 39-year-old wheelchair racer from Harlow and 11 other potential Olympians and Paralympians for 2012 will receive a £6,500 bursary at a reception in the House of Lords in January.

Strike has done well in various international events and competed in the 2004 Paralympic Games in Athens.

The funding comes from Team Essex Ambassador's Awards.

Marleen seventh in cross country series

MARLEEN Avontuur is in seventh spot in the Under-13 Essex Cross Country League series with one race left to go.

The 11-year-old Harlow Running Club member has finished in the top seven in the four previous races, while her club colleague Isobel Moss lies 26th in the series.

• HARLOW Running club member Sean Flynn completed the Bedford half marathon on Sunday in one hour 43 mins 44 secs.

Colts progress in National Cup

HARLOW Colts have made it through to the second round of the English National Colts Club Plate competition.

The Under-19 team from the Elizabeth Way club had their place confirmed after their scheduled first round opponents Norwich Crusaders pulled out.

Crusaders were unable to raise a side for the clash this Sunday.

Four days ago a weakened Harlow Colts side slipped to a 28-6 defeat at Finchley.

The visitors paid for weak defence in the backs.

Harlow fielded the U-17 half back pairing of Sam Gregory and Danny Smith, who played very well, as did the pack. Callum Potter was also outstanding.

Finchley went ahead after five minutes

Youth rugby round-up

with a converted try from their backs.

Harlow replied with a well-struck Danny Smith penalty after they had won their way into the Finchley 22.

Poor visitors' defence then allowed Finchley to score a second converted try, before Smith scored a second penalty.

Just before the interval the hosts went 21-6 ahead with another converted try.

The Young Rams raised their game in the second half and the pack dominated the possession. As a result Finchley were kept down to only one more try but Harlow were unable to convert their possession into points.

Both teams were short of players as a 12-a-side contest saw **Harlow U-15s** go

down 34-12 at Barnet.

The Young Rams were made to pay for poor defending and a lack of concentration by the home side who had lost to Harlow in November.

The visitors went ahead when Denzil Crafton ghosted through the Barnet defence to score a try which he converted.

Harlow became complacent and let the hosts run in two unconverted tries for a 10-7 half-time lead.

Following the break, Barnet scored two more tries which were both converted before Harlow's Jordan Judge scored an unconverted try in the corner.

The home side continued to cut through the Harlow defence and scored two more unconverted tries in the latter stages.

TABLES

RYMAN LEAGUE Up to & incl Tues Dec 16 Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Dover Ath.....	21	18	0	3	54
Carshalton A.....	20	11	5	4	38
Staines Tn.....	18	11	4	3	37
Tonbridge A.....	21	10	5	6	35
Canvey Is.....	22	10	5	7	35
Maidstone Utd.....	20	10	3	7	33
Ashford Tn (M).....	19	10	0	9	30
Sutton Utd.....	19	8	5	6	29
Tooting & Mitcham.....	21	9	2	10	29
Wealdstone.....	21	8	4	9	28
AFC Hornchurch.....	19	8	4	7	28
Boreham Wd.....	20	8	4	8	28
Billerica Tn.....	19	7	6	6	27
Horsham.....	19	8	2	9	26
Dartford.....	20	7	3	10	24
Hastings.....	20	6	0	12	24
Harrow Boro.....	20	5	3	8	22
HARLOW TN.....	6	3	10	21	
Margate.....	21	5	4	12	19
Ramsgate.....	21	4	7	19	
Hendon.....	20	5	3	12	18
Hyndridge S.....	20	2	8	10	14

HARLOW & DISTRICT FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Up to & incl Sun Dec 14 Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	PT
Great Pardom.....	9	6	2	1	20
Maypole Athletic.....	8	6	1	1	19
Old Town Athletic.....	8	6	1	1	19
Rouge Lyon.....	6	5	0	1	15
Margus Sports.....	7	3	2	2	11
Old Townmead.....	9	2	2	5	8
Pardom Royals.....	8	2	1	5	7
Risden Wood.....	6	2	1	3	7
Harbets.....	9	2	0	7	6
Lindsey Street.....	8	0	0	0	0

Division One

Maypole Athletic Res.....	8	5	1	2	16
Pools Athletic.....	7	5	1	1	16
Great Pardom CA Res.....	7	4	1	2	13
FC Parkside.....	7	3	1	3	10
Risden Wood Res.....	5	3	0	2	9
New Town Rangers.....	5	0	2	3	2
Atletico UG.....	9	0	2	7	2
Altham Grove.....	0	0	0	0	0
Pollard.....	0	0	0	0	0

Division Two

Brookside Athletic.....	8	7	0	1	21
Woolpit Wood A.....	7	6	1	1	19
Gala.....	8	6	1	1	19
Midens.....	6	5	1	0	16
Rouge Lyon Res.....	7	2	2	3	8
Dynamite.....	8	2	2	4	8
Matching Utd.....	9	2	0	7	6
A and A.....	10	1	2	7	5
Eastwick Lions.....	9	0	1	8	1

Division Three

Sewardstone Rovers.....	8	8	0	0	24
FC Clark.....	9	5	4	0	19
Epping Athletic.....	7	5	0	2	15
Skipper Rangers.....	8	4	2	2	14
Matching Utd Res.....	8	3	1	4	10
Garnon Epping.....	9	4	1	4	7
Harberts A.....	8	1	0	7	6
Cottenham.....	5	1	1	3	4
Ashfield Albion.....	6	0	1	5	1
Altham Groves Res.....	0	0	0	0	0

Division Four

FEL.....	10	8	0	2	24
Eppingdale.....	8	7	0	1	21
Skipper Rangers.....	8	4	2	2	14
Matching Utd Res.....	8	3	1	4	10
Garnon Epping.....	9	4	1	4	7
Harberts A.....	8	1	0	7	6
Cottenham.....	5	1	1	3	4
Ashfield Albion.....	6	0	1	5	1
Altham Groves Res.....	0	0	0	0	0

Division Five

FC Clark Res.....	8	7	1	0	22
Brookside Athlete Res.....	8	7	0	1	21
Maidens Res.....	10	6	3	3	19
Mountessing.....	9	4	4	1	16
Benfleet.....	10	4	3	3	15
M & B Club.....	11	4	2	5	14
Epping.....	10	3	1	6	13
Canning Town.....	10	3	3	4	12
Ongar Town.....	10	3	2	5	11
Potter Street.....	7	2	2	3	8
Greenway.....	9	2	2	5	8
Martins Way.....	8	2	1	3	7
White Ensign.....	7	1	4	4	5
Faces FC.....	6	2	1	3	4

LFC INSURANCE ESSEX OLYMPIC FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Up to & incl Tue Dec 16

	P	W	D	L	PT
Kelvedon Hatch.....	10	7	3	0	24
Frenford Senior.....	11	7	1	3	22
Harold Wood Ath.....	10	4	4	2	16
Mountessing.....	9	4	4	1	16
Benfleet.....	10	4	3	3	15
North Weald.....	10	6	0	1	18
Langley Rangers.....	12	7	2	3	16
Alemitre Athletic.....	8	7	1	0	15
Sheering.....	10	6	1	3	13
Quendon Athletic.....	10	4	4	2	12
Old Street.....	10	4	3	3	11
Hatfield Heath.....	10	4	0	6	8
Salvation Army (Harlow).....	8	3	2	3	8
Loughton.....	8	3	1	4	7
Pelly House.....	11	2	1	8	5
Birchangel.....	11	1	1	9	3
White Rodding.....	10	0	0	9	2

Division One

North Weald.....	10	6	3	1	15
Thorley Park.....	11	6	2	3	13
Hatfield Heath Res.....	9	6	1	2	13
Heath Rovers.....	7	6	1	0	13
Sheering Res.....	5	5	1	2	11
Hertfordshire Rangers.....	10	3	3	4	2
Dunmow Rhodes.....	8	4	0	4	8
Potter Street A.....	8	4	0	4	8
Lower Street.....	11	3	2	6	8
Avondale Rangers.....	7	2	2	3	6
Thaxted Res.....	9	1	3	5	5
Albury.....	8	2	0	6	4
Frontiers.....	10	1	0	9	2



Eagles time-out. The hosts led 26-11 at the first break.

In the second quarter, Hawks' scoring rate was a lot slower and it took them until almost the third minute to score their first points through a Stuart Burgess shot.

<p



SMASH AND GRAB: Men's singles title winner Luke Spooner
(S439QTQR04)

Spooner seals singles success

TENNIS player Luke Spooner has retained the London Park men's singles title.

The historic and prestigious competition is held over several months and involved some 80 competitors from all over London and the Home Counties.

Coming into the final it had been doubtful if the Harlow Lawn Tennis Club player would be able to play at all as he had struggled to overcome a troublesome hand injury.

Fortunately this improved in the last few days before the match, allowing for some limited practice.

Spooner's opponent in the final was top seeded Zane Cheeseman from Kent.

Things did not look good for the Harlow player with Cheeseman taking an early 3-1 lead.

However, Spooner (20) began to relax and his game started to flow with the contest quickly becoming a superb match.

Some wonderful rallies featured throughout the match with Spooner serving at a consistently high level and this turned things around and gave him the edge as Cheeseman's serve came under constant pressure.

Having won the first set on a tie break Spooner never looked back and went on to win 7-6, 6-3, in what the tournament referee later described as the best men's final for many years.

RESULTS

SATURDAY DECEMBER 13

Football

Footprint Bishop's Stortford, Stansted & District League, prem div: Langley Rangers 0, North Weald 2 (James Brown, Dean Connolly); Birchanger 2, Old Street 5; Quendon Ath 5, Hatfield Heath 0.

Div one: Albury 1, Lower St 4 (Ian Jones, Billy Ryan, Toby Hayward, Sam Trickle); Dunmow Rhodes 1, Thorley Park 3; Hertfordshire Rangers 2, Avondale Rangers 4.

Essex Junior Cup, 3rd rnd: Old Chelmsfordians 0, Alemite Ath 6 (Shane Bartram 3, Jamie Gordon, Louis Davis, James Thomas).

Essex Junior Trophy 3rd rnd: Frontiers 3 (John French, Peter Thorp and Adam Webb), Thaxted Rangers reserves 2.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14

Harlow & District League, div one: GPCA res 3, Maypole Ath res 2; FC Parkside 1, Pools 3.

Div two: Galaxy 4, A&O 0.

Div three: Maypole Sp 0, UG 2; Sewardstone 4, FC Flare 1; St Germaine 4, Epping Ath 8.

Div four: Ashfield v Matching Utd res (match abandoned); FEL 5, Eppalode 4; Skipper 5, Harberts 0B.

Div five: Archers Dart 0, Royston Lyon A 6; Barretts Rangers 2, Maiden res 3; Harberts A 1, FC Clark res 5.

Essex Premier Cup: Real BT5 2, Old Town 0; Harberts 2, Daen Ingas 5.

FIXTURES

SATURDAY DECEMBER 20

Football

Ryman League, premier div: Margate v Harlow Tn. Essex Senior League Cup, quarter-final: Stansted v Sawbridgeworth Tn.

LFC Insurance Essex Olympian League, prem div: Potter Street v Frenford Senior, White Ensign v Epping.

Rugby

London div three north east: Saffron Walden v Harlow. **Essex div one:** Maldon v Upper Clapton.

More fixtures available at www.harlowstar.co.uk

Chairman's support for Harlow boss

HAWKS chairman Simon Morgan, right, has given player-boss Ryan Kirby more time to turn things round at Harlow Town Football Club. Morgan and Hawks vice-chairman Bill Wiseman expressed their concern about results when they had a meeting with Kirby and his coaching team (Steve Kirby, Kevin Warren and Paul West-Hook) after Tuesday's 5-3 home defeat to Hendon. It was the sixth defeat in a row for the



Hawks in the Ryman League premier division and left them in the bottom five. Yesterday, Morgan

told **Star Sport:** "Myself and Bill [Wiseman] are supportive of Ryan. We are giving him time to turn it around. We are very concerned about results and our position."

"We are not looking to change Ryan and I am confident he will turn it around."

"If we had a manager who did not care about the club we would dismiss him. Ryan cares for the football club and is working very hard."

He added: "We have

to remember we had a good FA Cup run. We are not going to win the league but I want us to get to mid-table."

Morgan said that moves are being made to get new players in but he will not interfere with Kirby's decisions.

The chairman added: "I feel Ryan is the right man to do the job and am confident he will get us to mid-table. He is his own man. He is the manager of the football team and will make the decisions."

Robins edge through to League Cup semis

THE Robins' 2-2 draw at Southend Manor was enough to send the team through to the semi-finals of the Essex Senior League Cup.

Sawbridgeworth had a slender one-goal lead from the first leg after a 2-1 win.

However, Manor were level on aggregate after 14 minutes of Saturday's match when a cross from the right by Chris Badderley was tucked home by Jay Smith from close range.

The Robins scored on 28 minutes and then again just before the break to go 4-2 ahead on aggregate. A superb right-wing cross from Neil Pedley fell to Ashley Conlan to finish, before a Dan Hudson 30-yard free-kick flew into the bottom left corner of the home net.

Manor enjoyed a lot of territory after the break but the hosts could only score once more through an excellent 25-yard strike from Badderley on 87 minutes.

Angels on high as Hawks lose again

Harlow Tn 0, Tonbridge Angels 2
(Ryman League, premier division)

By ALAN SCOTT
Sports Editor
scotta@hertsessexnews.co.uk

THE Hawks' winter of discontent continued as Ryan Kirby's men suffered a fifth consecutive league defeat.

Harlow Town had claimed just one point from a possible 18 after Saturday's game, and were just two points and two places off the drop zone prior to Tuesday's crucial home game against Hendon.

Play-off chasing Tonbridge only had 10 men for the last third of the game, but thoroughly deserved the three points.

Simon Glover had given Tonbridge a 55th-minute lead when he turned from hero to villain as he was sent off for elbowing Mark Taylor on 66 minutes.

Harlow gave a debut to two new players.

Centre-half Darren Williams, signed from Ryman division one north neighbours Cheshunt, and winger Dee Okojie, who was



THAT'S DEE WAY: Hawks debutant Dee Okojie tries to find a way past Jamie Cade (FCFKK2YF-08)

released by Bishop's Stortford a fortnight ago, both started.

Meanwhile, striker Raphael Sylvester also came on as a late substitute after being released by League

One club Leyton Orient. The match burst into life on eight minutes when Hawks keeper James Hasell was involved in a nasty fracas with Tonbridge striker Carl Rook.

Both were yellow carded. The hosts had their best chance on 32 minutes. Jamie

Hasell appeared to over-react to a challenge from Rook and shoulder-barged the forward.

Both were yellow carded. The hosts had their best chance on 32 minutes. Jamie

beating the Hendon keeper and slipping the ball into an empty net.

But a minute into first-half stoppage time Glenn Garner made it 2-2. A free-kick into the box was blocked twice before the striker stabbed the ball to Hasell's left.

Jamie Richards put Harlow back in front on 48 minutes when he flicked it at the near post. This came after some excellent work on the right from Taylor who refused to give up and eventually crossed from a difficult angle almost on the byline.

Harold made it 3-3 on 55 minutes when a long ball from the back caught out the Harlow defence who tried to put Hunt offside and he nipped in to

slot past Hasell. After Taylor's red card and Hunt's subsequent penalty, Jamie Busby grabbed the fifth on 84 minutes with a free-kick that appeared to go straight through the Harlow wall.

Hendon substitute Lubomir Guentchev hit a post late on but this would have added insult to injury.

It was the first time the Hawks have conceded five goals at Barrows Farm and Kirby's men have now claimed just one point from a possible 21 in the last six weeks.

HARLOW TN: Hasell 7, Taylor 6, Holding 5, Chapman 5 (Kear 86), Williams 7, Kirby 5 (Green 60), Lalite 6, S. Gliddon 6, Richards 5, Adeyinka 4, Okojie 5 (Sylvester 72). Subs not used: Bunn, Hardy (gk). Att: 220.

Kirby on the brink

Continued from back page
He has cut short his loan spell from Southend United.

He was replaced by another loan player from Southend in striker Craig Calver, while Shrimpers winger Kyle Asante was on the bench.

The Middlesex side went ahead after seven minutes when Hunt beat the off-side trap and rounded Hawks keeper James Hasell in one-on-one.

Leon Lalite equalised on 29 minutes with his first goal for over a year. He intercepted the ball in midfield, stepped past two challenges and rifled home from the edge of the box.

Calver put the hosts in front on 40 minutes. He beat Marc Leach before

beating the Hendon keeper and slipping the ball into an empty net.

But a minute into first-half stoppage time Glenn Garner made it 2-2. A free-kick into the box was blocked twice before the striker stabbed the ball to Hasell's left.

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HARLOW TN: Hasell 7, Taylor 6, Holding, Chapman (Kear 61), Williams, Kirby, Lalite, Green, Richards, Calver, Okojie (Asante 82). Subs not used: S. Gliddon, Sylvester, Hardy (gk). Att: 161.

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Is that the change strip ladies?

TEGATE Netball Club players have got their kit off once again to raise cash for charity. The Harlow club are hoping a sexy calendar will raise vital funds for Breast Cancer Research. The girls, aged between 17 and 34 have produced this year's "All Sports" calendar to recognise the work of Breast Cancer Research, but also to allow the club to continue to represent Essex in the England Netball Regional League – and to show supporters that they still look pretty good!

Club spokeswoman Chrissie Jamieson said: "Tegate chose this charity because



ALL CHANGE: One of the photographs in the Tegate Netball Club charity calendar

(s)

as well as raising vital funds for Breast Cancer Research we are aiming to help make more girls aware of their risk of breast cancer and raise funds to help tackle the disease which

affects more than 44,000 women in the UK every year. "We decided to put this together for a second successive year due to the demand for our 2008 "Naked Netballers" calendar."

"We raised enough for a great donation to the British Heart Foundation last year and wanted to do the same for Breast Cancer Research." She continued: "We already have ideas

for our 2010 edition, and have even had suggestions from buyers as to what they would like to see, which is fantastic as we can continue our fund raising and charity donations for our

selected charities."
● TO purchase a copy of the calendar contact Chrissie Jamieson on 07801 211910 or at christine_ford_1974@hotmail.com or pick up a copy at The Crown Pub in Old Harlow.

Kirby on the brink

THE pressure was mounting on Hawks player-boss Ryan Kirby after his 10-man side slipped to a disappointing defeat to second-from-bottom Hendon at Barrows Farm.

It was a sixth loss in a row for Harlow Town and a massive blow to their hopes of beating the drop.

But Hawks chairman Simon Morgan has given Kirby a vote of confidence (see page 51) ahead of Saturday's trip to Margate in the premier division.

Morgan and vice-chairman Bill Wiseman met with all the managerial

Harlow Tn 3, Hendon 5

(Ryman League, premier division)

staff after Tuesday's shock defeat Hendon.

Harrow had led 2-1 and 3-2 before being pegged back again by their fellow strugglers.

However, the key moment came in the 75th minute when right-back Mark Taylor was dismissed for an off the ball incident with Hendon striker Harry Hunt in the penalty box.

Hendon were awarded a penalty and went 4-3 up as Hunt completed a hat-trick.

Taylor was fuming at the decision. He said: "He [Hunt] got a run on me. His arm was up. I pushed him off and

he fell on the ground like a sack of potatoes. There was no intention there to hit him or throw an elbow. We still had a chance of nicking a point."

Taylor believes Harlow can end this miserable run. "We have just got to close ranks. We have got to work hard. We know we are good enough. It's not happening for us at the moment. We have got to get back to basics."

"We need that little bit of luck to go our way. When you are in a rut like this everything goes against you."

Harlow suffered a pre-match blow with the news that 30-year-old striker James Bunn has quit the club after an 18-month spell. Another forward, Tashan Adeyinka, has also gone.

Continued on page 51

